



Truth To Wonder
Ministries Magazine

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Isaiah 53:5

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Welcome to Truth To Wonder

As we enter the hopefully bright and sunny summer months, we are doubtless looking forward to blissfully warm evenings spent in the garden, family bbq's, gatherings and days out with friends and family. Such are the array of summery delights that it becomes very easy to feel very attached to the comforts and luxuries of this world. Hearts and minds once fixed on heavenly things are eased into desires of the flesh, as the pleasant blessings of God become the fixation of the heart rather than God himself.

This preoccupation with a peaceful and pleasant existence is an easy trap to fall into as who does not long for continued days of rest, peace and ceaseless joy? Yet we as Christians are to not long for such a life in this world. Why? Because such a goal will always lead to a tragic compromise of faith. The world is content with quiet, apologetic Christians who make no waves in society, those who happily conform with everything of the world to such a degree that no one would actually have any clue that they were indeed Christians! Such individuals have raised up the idol of comfort and are worshipping it heartily.



Days of personal rest and blessing are wonderful gifts from God without question, but their accumulation in this life should never be the objective of any Christian. We have been bought with a great price, the blood of the LORD of Hosts Jesus Christ, (1 Corinthians 6:20) and we are set apart from the world to live and share the Gospel wherever the Lord has placed us (Luke 14:23). We are servants of the King of Kings and as such we are to be about our King's business. This mission is always broken when we seek treasures and comforts in this life. We are to lay our treasures up in heaven by serving Our Lord with all our might! (Matthew 6:19-21) We shall be rewarded for our labours, in such abundance from Our Gracious Lord that we shall feel undone by His sheer grace! (1 Corinthians 2:9) Our eternity will be spent in utter joy and adoration of such a loving Saviour and the days of exhaustion and hardship will have been wiped away forever.

So be thankful and grateful of course unto God for the days of rest and pleasantness so graciously given by Him to you (Psalm 106:1), but let's never raise the gift over the gift giver!

Opening Prayer

Dear Lord and Heavenly Father, we are so thankful for the blessings you so graciously gift us each and every day. Though we are but sinful wretches, in your eternal goodness and grace you array our days with an abundance of wonders and joys so that our cups do indeed run over with the fruits of your goodness.

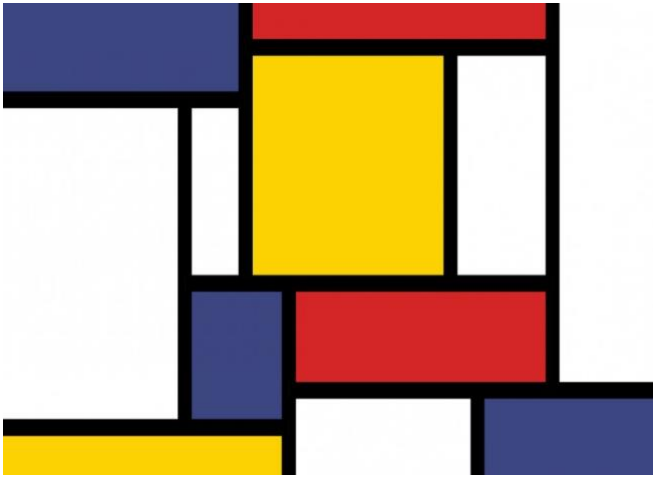
Yet Lord as we give our humble thanks for your wondrous richness of provision and blessing, we ask Lord that we don't come to value the gifts you give more than the glory of you, Our Mighty Lord and God. We are but wicked beings, prone to sin Lord and we are likely to become complacent in our faith in times of rest or blessing. Lord enable us in the strength of your faithfulness towards us, so that we might not become fixated on achieving a comfortable life in this world. In this desire we are liable to drift from our faith in you Lord, as we strive to protect the empty trappings of this world at the expense of incorruptible treasures you so graciously reserve for us in heaven.

Lord, though we do not seek days of battle and hardship as no veteran soldier longs for war. Yet a strong warrior is always ready for battle and is wise to know that days of rest in this life are welcome indeed but are often short lived. So Lord we rest in your care and mercy, trusting you will lead us into days of rest and blessing when we are in need of them. When we are restored Lord let us be of use to your kingdom, so that we do not become lazy of faith but instead are ready to defend your Word with our very lives. For Lord you have brought us through each battle by your abundant grace, and by that same eternal grace, you will lead us to eternal rest when you have called our battles and labours to a close. All this we do ask in Jesus name. Amen.



No Place For Mankind

If I were to ask you to name a modern artist, many would offer the name of Piet Mondrian as a widely known example of this artistic style. His bold geometric works have inspired many a budding artist who look to capture the striking simplicity and bold use of colour within their own creations. Yet few are aware of the deep sadness that Mondrian placed within these paintings and how they reflect the tragic consequences of a life devoid of God.



An example of Mondrian work

Mondrian's objective within his work was the same as every other modern artist, to unlock a universal truth of the nature of existence and life through the medium of art. Such modern artists argue aggressively with their brushes against the revealed truth that man is made in the image of God, and so they look to discovering some secret language of truth that links all existence together so as to give everything substance and meaning. And you thought it was just some coloured in rectangles! (I did as well in all honesty!)

In one of Piet Mondrian's pieces, he created a beautifully balanced work that incorporated an entire room's worth of artwork. Such was the precision of every item's location so as to achieve a flowing layout which would enable each piece to stand alone and yet as a whole, that Mondrian painted himself into a desperately sad corner. The room was balanced, yet when anyone set foot into the room it immediately ruined the compositional flow of the whole. The tragedy was that the purpose of the room, an attempt at the perfect living space for man, failed in its most basic requirement, accommodating man! So Mondrian's dream of finding a universal truth which he could articulate through his art was a great failure, as it has been with every modern artist before him and since him.

Yet when the art world steps out in rebellion against Biblical teaching, it doesn't take long for it to seep into the wider world. This failed dream of finding the great universal has been taken up by the environmental activists, who through the subtle motivations of a far darker source being Satan himself, are trying to bring mankind together in the Babel-like mission of coming together to save Mother Earth. This pantheistic ideal (belief in multiple gods as opposed to the One true God of the Bible) is striving to bring mankind to unity through the teaching that all existence is god and we are all interconnected as a result. In other words, trees are god, plants are god, rocks are god, animals are god, we are god.

Yet the wickedness doesn't end there. This Mother Earth worship is combined with evolutionary principle making mankind the late comer on the world stage. This means that mankind is the enemy (even though we are meant to be part of the god existence as well) and so must place Earth's welfare above mankind's. We are at the same problem that Mondrian faced with his art, mankind is simply not welcome in his own creation! So as a result we live a world where 'luminaries' such as Sir David Attenborough can be applauded for saying mankind must be depopulated for the sake of Planet Earth! This is in direct rebellion against God's command for mankind to be fruitful and multiply and to fill the earth.

When man removes God from society, another god is inevitably raised up instead for as we saw last month, man is a worshipping being and must adore something more than itself. Yet the alternative is always a cold, cruel, heartless, fickle god born from the designs of the father of lies that is the Devil himself. We have not gone far from pagan Greece and Rome with its array of gods, all whom were cruel, angry and vengeful to mankind. In these ancient cultures, the gods were angry against mankind for even existing, hence the increasingly wicked worship practices these peoples indulged in in the hope that these services would please the angry gods.

So now we live a world that desperately seeks to appease angry Mother Earth by willingly harming itself. Mondrian realised his goal was futile and his objective was self-defeating. It is only a matter of time before mankind realises 'climate change' cannot be stopped by our efforts and a world-wide panic will ensue. This mass hysteria will likely help pave the way for AntiChrist to arise as mankind always clings to any Saviour during times of peril, as long as it's not Jesus. For it is but the beginning of the birth pains that mark the soon return of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

By Jonathan Badger

The Mass of Men

Whilst watching a film with my wife Donna one night, a line was spoken that struck me as a deeply sad, poignant reality. The line was a quote from Henry Thoreau that read, "The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation." How true this terrible point is that surrounds us every single hour in inescapable demonstrations of human desperation for love, affection, or even just to grasp reality itself!

The quote was given as a response to a character's question to another of why people do certain things even when they know it is wrong. The notion being that people commit immoral acts in the desperate hope of a pleasing sensation that offers a brief release from the sad reality of a life lived in a world of evil and suffering.

This depressing situation modern man finds himself sinking into is the logical conclusion to the existential teaching of philosophers such as Soren Kierkegaard (the Father of Modern Thinking) and Jean Paul Satre who argued that for an individual to be validated or 'authenticated' as an entity, we must act on the basis of sensation. Whether the sensation is good or bad Satre argued is irrelevant, as long as you acted in enabling the sensation that is enough.

So modern man chases sensation through drink, drugs, gambling, sexual immorality, music, popular entertainment, etc, in the hope that sensation will give it's existence purpose. Then in finding that purpose, peace and fulfilment will be unlocked and owned at last by the masses. In other words, sensation has become man's god.

Yet as everyone knows, sensation is a fleeting, momentary beast, gone as soon as it is realised. So the next sensation must be chased after, the next act must be enabled to bring any apparent sense of purpose to a life. This is the root of many addictions. It is the desire to discover purpose, a reality of being through sensation. It is this same need that powered the thinking of Satre in his assertion that as long as one has 'acted' on an impulse so as to instigate a desired sensation, then truth of purpose and existence has been established. Yet if a truth is inconsistent and quickly worn out, then how do you know it was ever a truth in which you could establish your own existence, your whole purpose of being upon?

This is the slippery slope that such thinking leads to. When idolising an all too brief sensation, to have any sense of consistent relief from the deep concerns,

worries and questions of life, a constant stream of sensation is required to provide purpose of existence. So the alcoholic takes another drink, the gambler places another bet, the drug addict takes another hit, the pornography addict watches another video and so the list goes on. As they have merely acted on an impulse to bring about a desired sensation, they have 'validated' themselves according to modern philosophers.

It would be easy to read of such stricken souls and feel pity towards them and yet have a sense of relief that like the self righteous man in the temple, giving thanks to God that he was not like such sinful people. Yet consider yourselves, are you so far removed in the worship of sensation? Shopaholics, workaholics, music fanatics, movie addicts, hobby over-indulgers, comfort seekers, are just as dependent on a sensation for 'validation' as others.



Sensation is a temporary pleasure that ultimately leaves the seeker dissatisfied and disillusioned at their own purpose of existence. If even basic sensation does not satisfy anymore, and we are nothing more than a glorified puddle of primordial gloop as evolutionary theory argues, then what is the point of existence? In this pit of despair that engulfs the weary of sensation, an awful numbness to life and even existence swallows up the sufferer. Such deep despair has led to many a tragic end and this has been seen time and again within the modern artistic world.

So where do we stand if we have found that sensation, the supposed source of 'authenticating and validating' one's own purpose and existence, is ultimately deeply unsatisfying to humanity? Revelation is the answer. Revelation is grounded in truth, and the revelation of God is grounded in an absolute truth that is the Word of God. In this revelation we see that God is unchanging, consistent and pure in all of His glorious attributes. In His wondrous love He created man and placed His own image upon us, crafting us out especially from all other creations. Through revelation, we see that we

are designed to worship and enjoy Him forever (The Westminster Catechism), giving us our essential reason d'être, our very reason for being.

It is through the revelation of God's Word that our lives are given value and purpose. A value that is consistent and directed, not prone to the fickle nature of opinion. To bring purpose back to mankind, to lift this 'quiet desperation of the mass of men', this revelation that is the Word of God must be brought back into the lives of mankind.

So we have a conflict raging amidst the waves of humanity. A battle that rages far higher and greater than between differing sides of mankind. It is the attempted war by Sensation against Revelation, as first witnessed at the fall of Lucifer. Lucifer desired to be as God; he desired the sensation of adoration and exaltation from all other beings. His boundless pride drove his lust for sensation. Yet his rebellion quickly floundered and he was cast from heaven along with his angelic supporters.

So in the Garden of Eden, in his anger against God and in his attempts to sabotage the revealing of God to the crown of creation that is mankind, Satan lured Adam and Eve away from true revelation by a lie of alternative revelation through sensation. Eve's resolve finally cracked when she saw the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge was "good to eat". The urge and possibility of sensation was more important to follow than the consistency and certainty of the Word of God. Mankind paid a heavy price for this error and all creation groans under the weight of this great sin. Yet tragically, so afflicted are we as humans of sin, that we continue to fall into this same error generation after generation. Satan therefore doesn't have to change his tactics one bit, he has watched mankind succumb to the same play every single time.



Yet Satan also knows that the remedy to this ancient, all effecting disease that is sin is the same as it always was, the eternal Word of God. Mankind gave into the lies of Satan by pursuing the lie of a 'greater knowledge' that could be gained via sensation. This is exactly what we witness in the New Age movement today, as the popularity of consciousness altering

practices like meditation and yoga are actively engaged in. The New Age movement happily embraces all versions of supposed revelation and sensation, as long as it's not Biblical Christianity! It is this very evident fact that incredibly acts as a proof of the authenticity of the Bible being the direct revelation of God. The sheer fact that Biblical Christianity is so universally despised by the world's counterfeit religions, faiths, ideologies, lifts it up as something greater than man, something greater than the product of any creation. If it was the creation of man or any other created being, it would've been destroyed long ago such has been the intense ferocity of Satan's attacks against it throughout time.

So it is this unique revelation of the Word of God that pulls mankind out of it's ancient desperation. Satan knows this all too well and so attacks the Bible with everything he's got. We as the soldiers of Christ must defend His revelation with everything we have, and bring this unique joy that is the Word of God to others so that too can hear of the wondrous news of the Gospel. It is the Gospel alone that brings a sword sharp enough to cut the ropes of slavery to empty, sinful sensation that we have all been in bondage to during our lives. Then we must pray that the Lord will reveal Himself personally to those whom we have faithfully witnessed to and praise God that it is in the certainty of revelation, the revelation of Christ that we are saved, and not temporary sensation.

By Jonathan Badger

The Rock on which we stand and place in which we shelter.

Believers are not immune. We don't all drive fancy cars, have wonderful houses big bonus filled jobs, daily good health and the perfect home-life. And why would we? The Bible goes to great pains to explain that we should not hold onto earthly wealth and desires of the flesh but build up our treasures in heaven, where they cannot rot or rust or be stolen. Christ said the very opposite to that which the health wealth prosperity movement teaches, that a life following him would bring troubles, and suffering. The very moment you accept Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, Hell takes a renewed interest in you. Its like there's an underling of Satan that has a pot of paint and daubes a target on the back of your head the moment your saved. But there is the key point – you are saved. Satan could level the legions of Hell

against you and as my wife's favourite verse states in Romans 8 – 38, nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Jesus Christ. Nothing can remove you from his hand.

This thought leads me to a brief consideration two sections in the letters of Paul to the Corinthians that provide us with the sure hope that we are not abandoned by Christ in our times of trouble or indeed temptation. The first is 1 Corinthians 10 and verse 13.

“There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that which ye are able; but will with temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it”.

What a wonderfully reassuring statement. But the thought crosses our mind – How is this so? Temptations are very often front and centre. They are not off to the side in our minds but the old man inside us makes them often the very pinnacle of distraction, making us feel that if we do not give in that we will be unable to focus on anything else, or feel that we have somehow in some way missed out. They are often spontaneous; this is Satans way of trying to make us stumble and fall, take us off guard with temptations that are tailor made to our own personal fallen desires. What then is the way out this verse above speaks of? There is no neon sign or helpful stewardess to point out the exits.

The answer is prayer. There is no greater enemy to temptation, and through it all glory to God. Prayer through Jesus Christ our personal intercessor with the Father is our direct access to the throne room of God. He is our King, Father, Saviour and friend and never turns a blind eye or a deaf ear. The moment you are tempted in what ever manner, and none of us are ignorant of these moments, given that God gave you an inbuilt collision warning system called a conscience, we should come to the Lord in prayer and ask for the strength to avoid the temptation. Merely drawing close to God in these moments is enough to quell our own desires, and it gives the glory to God in that he acts to give us the strength – our way to escape.

And we need not pray for ourselves alone. If we see a brother or sister in Christ in times of trouble or temptation then we should pray on their behalf, and this leads me to the second passage I want to consider – 2 Corinthians 8 -11.

We regularly hear the phrase, “God will not give you more than you can handle”. And no doubt many of you many be thinking well isn't that what he just said in the first passage? Yes and no. When people say God will not give you more than you can handle – it is meant with the sentiment of hope. Hope that you will bear up under the pressure and find the strength within yourself to overcome. But this puts the emphasis on you and your ability. “God will not give you more than you can handle”. That is not what 1 Corinthians 10-13 says, and it takes away the glory from God and places it on your over-puffed shoulders. It states God will make the means of escape, not you. You have no more power over this than you have over taking your next breath if God so chooses to remove it from you and we would all do well to remember this.



In 2 Corinthians 8-11 we see Paul recounting the events that occurred during his time in Asia. There are no specifics but he states that they

“were pressed out of measure, above strength, in so much that we despaired even of life: but we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead: who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us; ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf.”

At no point during that passage does Paul ever ascribe his escape from the situation in Asia to his own personal ability or that of his travelling companion. They were at their limit, even beyond it and were at the point of just wanting to die. Does it sound like they were handling it? They had no trust in themselves – he states it plain as day. And Paul was no light-weight when it came to suffering.



Ruins of Corinth, home of the Corinthian Church

So what does he ascribe their deliverance to? God. God who has power over death itself, and who raises the dead. A fact of which Paul was a personal witness, being “an apostle of Christ” (Ibid verse 1), the criteria for which was to have seen the resurrected Jesus. He gives all the glory for their deliverance to God. He knows they were utterly helpless without him. But Paul also gives thanks to the Corinthian Church for their prayers for them. It is important that people we love and know are in times of trouble or temptation also know that we are praying for them. Not so that we might gain some praise or thanks from them but that they might know that others are going to the Father through Jesus Christ on their behalf.

God is our escape, and prayer is an effectual means. Glory to God only and let us not rest on our own abilities for they count as nought. Amen

By David J Badger Jnr

Ancient Briton

It would’ve been lovely to have closed our last part with the Word of God the A.V 1611 Bible marching onward unchallenged to the gates of our heavenly home. However, Satan was yet to loose the hordes of hell against the Book.

With the first ‘recognised destructive critic of the N.T being Origen, so the first critic of the A.V was a Roman Catholic priest Richard Simon (1638-1712), also the Benedictine monk Pierre Sabatie. Men like these knew that many of the Reformation scholars believed that the Received Text, as they had it would continue to the end of time.

Under Gods hand throughout history in different lands, His scribes in the majority of manuscripts had brought forth an identical Bible. However, even as the A.V 1611 came forth to do its work of blessing so Satan unleashed every philosopher, scholar, critic, atheist and devil inspired antichrist to oppose it. The Received Text considered so inferior by many was and is more feared by Rome than any other book. Further, we should note that in the non-Roman Catholic camp, the vast labours of scholars between 1800-1900 resorted to ANY device to get rid of the authority of the A.V.

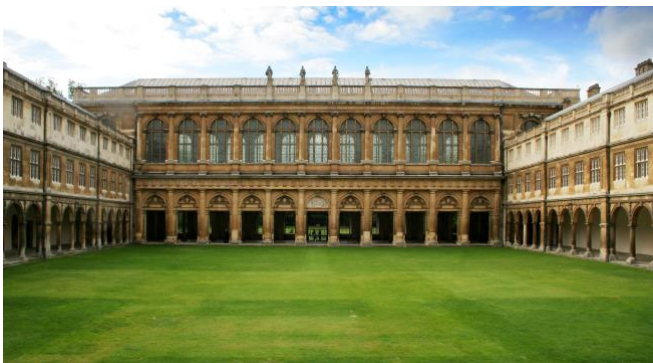
Now, before we go on to consider these attacks on the A.V, we should first give some thought to just what exactly these translators of the A.V did bring forth. While it is true that the translators would have said they valued the Bible only for it’s truth, yet the more they believed in it’s every word, the more powerfully and supernaturally, if unconsciously, must it’s beauty have affected them. They produced a work that for hundreds of years has wrought a powerful effect on the spirit and emotions of the people in these Isles.

Building on the work of Tyndale with his incredible gift of style and ear for rhythm, the A.V translators produced an unsurpassed Bible. It brought forth familiar imagery, turn of speech and rhythm, not only was it accurate it had power of expression; it had the

touch of heaven on it's pages, the voice of the Holy Ghost could be heard in it's lines.

In God's plan and purpose, as related in earlier articles, the English vocabulary had developed two chief elements – one native and one complexly foreign. Together they give an unrivalled flexibility. The Saxon gives a homely vigour, forthrightness, vividness and concreteness which matches the Hebrew. The foreign element gives a capacity for delicate discrimination. Sometimes one leads over the other and at other times they fuse together.

It is so important to understand that when the Bible was being translated into English, the English language was in what some literary scholars have termed a 'plastic stage'. Between 1600-1642, reading had become widespread through society. By 1675 we see great libraries coming into being like the one designed by Sir Christopher Wren for Trinity College, Cambridge. People had histories, sermons, handbooks on manners and the beginnings of newspapers. At Oxford University, we see Sir Thomas Bodley's library which was second only to that of the Vatican. Something like half the books published between 1600 – 1640 were of a religious nature.



Wren library at Trinity College Cambridge

Such learning brought another stage in the development of civilisation in these Isles at that time, for we see the emergence of the scientific spirit, true science, not evolution. In scientific institutes, papers were presented that argued for the fact that the fossil record proved the Genesis Flood. Museums came into being with a huge interest in research and navigation. Why mention such facts you might ask? For two reasons at least. Firstly, because when the A.V comes forth it is followed by an explosion of knowledge as

the light of God's Word dispels the darkness of Medievalism. Secondly, because today thousands of Ministers who attack the A.V before their congregations do so along the lines of the A.V translators being ignorant men who lived in ignorant times. No statement could be more IGNORANT than that. Our pulpits are full of men who have no more knowledge of history and Old England than a baby in it's crib.

Of course the sheer adaptability of the English language cannot of itself explain the beauty of the diction in the A.V. God had been preparing the groundwork for centuries. The words of God came through a literary furnace.

Another factor in the construction of the A.V is that it's translators did not adhere to all the pedantic theories around the technique of Hebrew verse. They were moved by it's inner life, the breathings of the Spirit, in fact so much were they moved that God enable them to bring forth prose whose rhythms exceed the Hebrew. One non-Christian English scholar wrote, 'The A.V has the air of an original'. He believed that, while our preachers consider it of low literary value and accuracy.

As the A.V came forth it soon became England's daily bread, and if you try to understand England at that period in history without taking into account the power and influence of that Book you will get a false picture. The truth is of course that the A.V began centuries before its birth.

Even the literary effect alone of the A.V from the perspective of English is awesome. It was the case that when you studied for the formidable London University degree in English Language and Literature, it would include study of the A.V. As one professor of English Literature from the university said, he would use no other translation when teaching English. Again, let me give you the words of another non-Christian English scholar who said of the A.V, 'the wonder of the translation is that if anything, it excels the original'. It would appear that the children of this world can see something our Pastors cannot.

As the A.V marched across the centuries in the hands of believers it won to Christ millions between 1611-1900. Soul winners who believed that they had the Infallible Book of God. Great revivals swept through the world. Yet as the Word went forth conquering, Satan had prepared yet another 'spiritual' blitzkrieg.

Satan's plan would take the form of 'great minds' to attack the Word of God. Men like Rene Descartes and Adam Weishaupt, Catholics strongly influenced by Jesuitism. Moliere, Lessing also Jesuit trained. Byron, Shelly and Heeine, Catholic influenced.

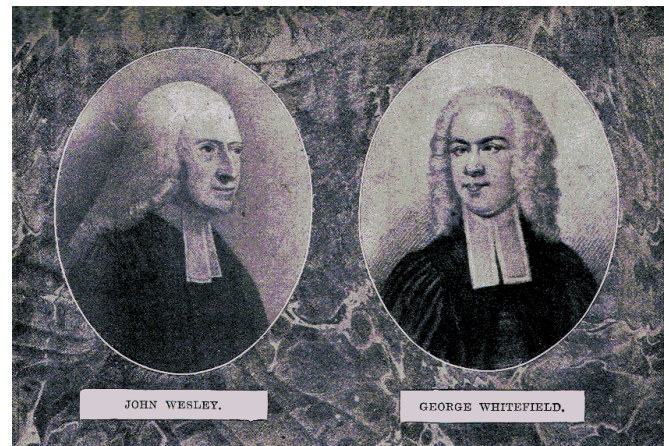
With the Age of Enlightenment he brings forth John Locke, Pascal, Racine. With the rise of apostate Germany and France we see Marx and the ideas of Weitling, Gutzkow, Mund, La Salle, Cabet, Prondhon, Muenzer, the Egaliteurs, Babeuf and Fourier. These Germans and Frenchmen advocated a radical Socialism or radical Communism. Rome as always was claiming that the gates of Hell could not overthrow her but that was merely due to all her alliances with Hell.

Still the A.V was moving round the earth with Bible truth not Catholic fable. Countless missionary societies busy translating the A.V into the vernacular of all nations caused the Pope to warn about these 'Bible Societies'. By 1800 there was a clear plan to rid the world of the A.V and the educated class (scholars), began to scream for a new bible. Satan wanted the A.V blotted out of remembrance.

So, another phase of his master plan was begun, namely to destroy any biblical witness in the Church of England, thus in 1833 the Oxford Movement whose birthplace was Rome, not Canterbury, came forth. The Devil had his 'apostles' in place, Revs J Keble, R.H Fronde, J.H Newman and Dr E.B Pusey, they would spearhead the attack. These men, known as 'Tractarians' because of literature they produced carried their poison in written form into the Vicarages of England. Jesuitism was their trade, they were the lowest traitors of all the good God had bestowed on the land.

Yet with even such contemptibles at work, God sent his men to warn the people. One Cushman was Walter Walsh who wrote the definitive work, The Secret History of the Oxford Movement, to sound an alarm. Secretly, and with guile these fifth-columnists received their wages from Protestant England while labouring to convert the land back to Rome. Step by step they re-prepared the ground for the Mass, the Confessional, the Invocation of Saints, prayers for the dead and Purgatory.

The layman and simple believer saw the wolf and raised the alarm but those who they thought would stand tall against falsehood were already in the pocket of the enemy. The Englishman in the pew did not betray the land but the preachers in the pulpits and the Doctors of Theology in our universities.



Wesley and Whitefield shunned by CofE Bishops

When God blessed the land under Whitfield and Wesley and others like Daniel Rowland's, the Church of England ignored them and the gospel they faithfully preached with contempt. The Church had made the wrong men it's Bishops. The Church was blind and like Israel of old ignored her prophets. Satan's plan, to unprotestantise the Church of England, to cause England to forget the Marian persecutions and remove the hated A.V Bible. If the A.V could be replaced with the Jesuit version of 1582 this would complete one of the greatest steps in leading England back to Rome.

By Dr David Badger Snr

Calories are Discriminatory

Did you know that calories are highly discriminatory?! Public Health for England has recently reaffirmed the medical stance that to help maintain good physical health, women should consume 2000 calories a day and men 2500 calories a day. Yet if men and women are no different and women can do everything men can do and should be allowed to do everything that men can do, (isn't this the message of the day?) then why should women be stereotyped into serving such oppressive dietary guidance?

Of course this is all said with tongue in cheek but such is the militant standpoint of much modern feminism and liberalism, and how ingrained it has become in much of our everyday thinking, that you may have read the opening paragraph and found yourselves beginning to agree with the absurd argument put forward.



Naturally men and women are different, physically and characteristically, so it doesn't surprise anyone of any grasp of reality to understand that men need more fuel to function physically at a consistent healthy level as opposed to women who need less. This is commonly accepted medical fact. It is an everyday statement in our breakfast bowls, lunch bags and dinner plates that men and women are created equally but with differing physical characteristics. These characteristics when messed around with cause harmful physical issues. The world recognises this basic fact in regards to our daily diet but is increasingly blind to its importance in protecting these carefully and wonderfully designed differences in other areas of life of equally vital significance.

By Jonathan Badger

The Genius of Footballers

Lazy stereotypes are plentiful in this world, one of them is the idea that footballers are stupid. However a recent science experiment highlighted the 'genius levels of mathematical data processing' that elite sportsman such as footballers often possess.

Footballer Cristiano Ronaldo was placed in an indoor football pitch which was lit by powerful floodlights. His challenge was to score a goal from a corner kick crossed in by another player. Easily done, right? Well no. At the first instance, when the ball was in flight towards Ronaldo, the lights were completely turned off, leaving the pitch in total darkness. The challenge was to see if Ronaldo could correctly judge the flight of the ball, head/kick the ball and score a goal without being to see the ball throughout its entire flight. This he successfully accomplished, connecting with the ball in the pitch black, sending it into the goal.

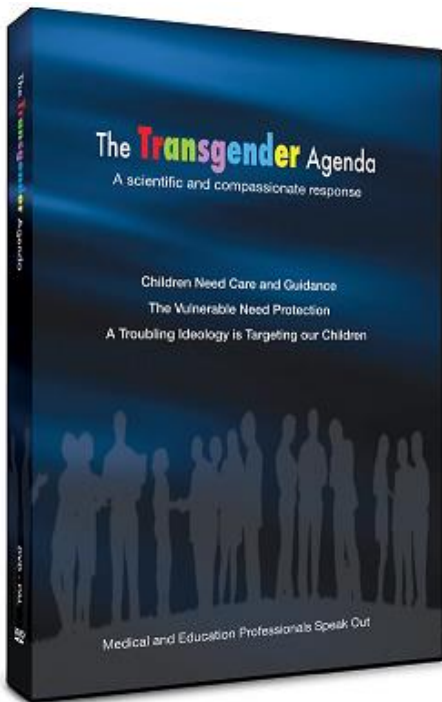
Next the lights went off at the moment the other player made contact with the ball at the corner flag, meaning Ronaldo had to predict the entire flight of the ball purely from the body angle of the player taking the corner kick. Incredibly Ronaldo again successfully scored from the unseen corner kick, using only his understanding of body angles and the power, direction these angles place on a ball when kicked.

The stunned scientists heralded such practical mathematical ability of elite sportsman as being on a level with those deemed as genius level academically. Such staggering natural ability, refined through years of practise reveals the astonishing computational ability of the human brain. Whilst it befuddles the evolutionist, it reminds us that such incredible analytical and processing skills installed in the human brain is just another proof that we are made in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:26), the same God who has been heralded by many great minds as being the Ultimate Mathematician due to the enormity of mathematical complexity seen in all creation.

By Jonathan Badger

Resource Corner

The Transgender Agenda

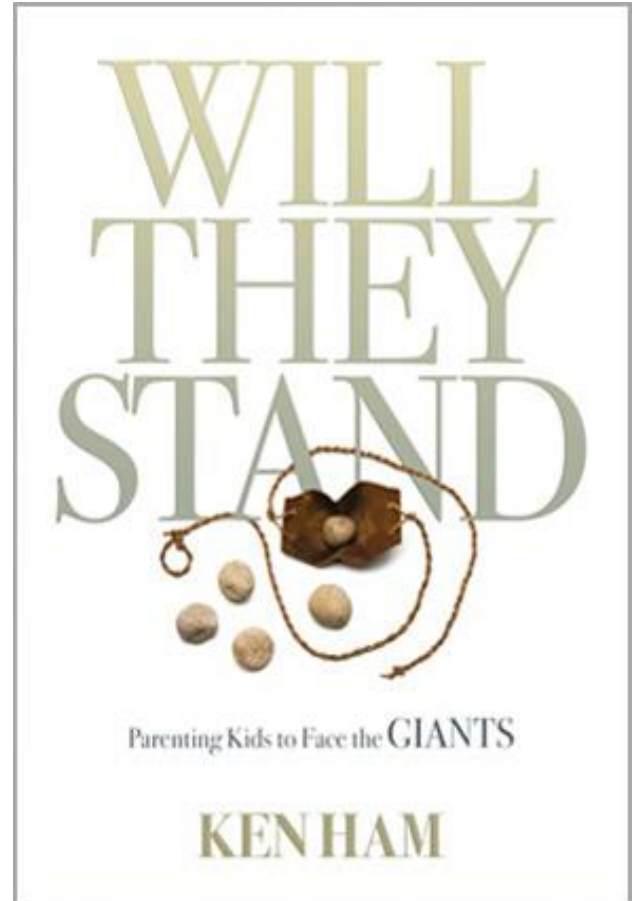


This DVD, produced by Truth in Science, is a scientific and compassionate response to an ideology that cannot be supported by science, namely transgenderism. Children are sometimes confused about their gender, and may go through a phase wanting to be the opposite sex. But this is something they usually grow out of once they go through the natural process of puberty. To affirm a child as the opposite gender to their biological sex, and then administer puberty blocking drugs followed by a lifelong course of sex hormones is to hijack the normal development of children. This pathway often leads to mutilating surgery of healthy bodies, which renders the individual sterile and prone to a number of physical and mental issues.

Gender dysphoria is a condition that exists in the mind. Like other mental disorders such as anorexia, we need to compassionately offer guidance that helps the individual adapt their mind to their body.

Those who have the responsibility to care for children should be informed of these dangers and safeguard children who are too young to be making decisions

that are irreversible and where we still do not know the long term outcome. As one doctor states, this is an unregulated live experiment on the most vulnerable in society. We must not fail in our duty of care. Available from Answers in Genesis



Will They Stand

Our children are facing cultural “giants” that previous generations could never have imagined. Secularism, depravity, immorality, and apathy taunt Christians with a barrage of hate and intolerance. Will our children be equipped to stand strong against these giants, or will they be overcome? That is the question Christian parents are asking. In this book, Ken Ham gives us a powerful and up-to-date message about the importance of raising strong believers who can stand in the face of a world that will challenge, disparage, and seek to eliminate their faith. He also helps prepare parents to equip the next generation to thrive in the face of cultural adversity and emerge as tomorrow’s Christian leaders.

Includes an exclusive interview with Mally Ham as she shares her story of the challenges met and sacrifices made to support their ministry and to raise a family of faith.

Available from Answers In Genesis

Who Wants To Be A Millionaire...I Don't!

One of the greatest stumbling blocks any unregenerate heart faces when it comes to believing in Christ as your Saviour and Redeemer is the belief that 'I'm a good person. I think God will allow me into heaven'. Well to put this stunning ignorance of this oft used justification for shunning the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ, to the test we'll do some maths. Yes that right, maths!

For arguments sake let's say you generally are a 'good person'; you help your elderly neighbour, volunteer at community events, participate in charity fun runs etc, etc. Yet you take the Lord's name in vain, idolise your career, family, house etc, argue with your parents, get jealous over what someone else has got that you haven't. These are sins according to the Law of God. Let's say you commit just a handful of these 'little sins', say five each day during the course of your life as a very, very conservative estimate. Now let's multiply that by days in a year. That gives 1,825 sins in a single year, at an extremely conservative estimate. Now let's multiply that by the average life expectancy of 70 years, giving us 127,750 sins in a very, very reserved life in regards to actions that anger God. Suddenly you don't look too squeaky clean.

In all reality however, we commit far more sins each day than we care to admit or even realise we've committed for such is the pull of the old man of sin in even the most devoted of servants of God. For example, gossiping about work colleagues, sinful. Getting impatient with God's plan for you, sinful. Grumbling about a lack of something you think you need or deserve, sinful. Taking God's provision for granted, sinful. Ducking out of a witnessing opportunity out of a fear of man, sinful. Taking pride in something and not giving the glory to God, sinful. Being angry with someone for no reason, sinful. Refusing to forgive, sinful. Boasting about an accomplishment, sinful. Indulging in crude humour, sinful. Enjoying entertainment that promotes/exhibits sinful activity, sinful. The list goes on. By the time a

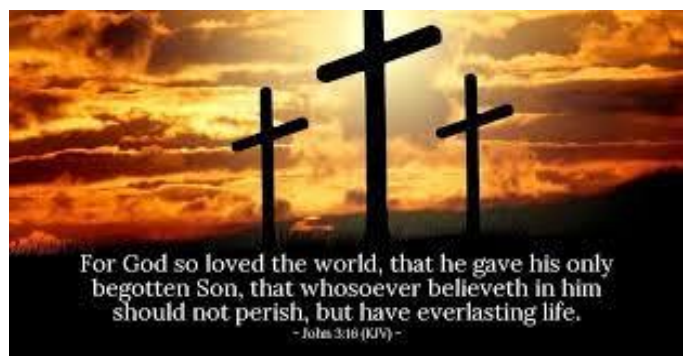
single day is through we've likely accumulated a sin debt to God that is likely to be in the multiples of ten.

Therefore we are in all likely going to be ending our days in this life with a sin debt that amounts to millions. Bearing this in mind, how can anyone even begin to think that they are a 'good person' and therefore don't need a Saviour? Make no mistake, if you are such a person with such a mindset take stock of just how deeply flawed you are and how the huge debt you've accumulated must be paid fully.

If you think you can turn over a new leaf and pay back some of your sinful debt to God by living a life filled with good deeds and morals, don't. Whilst you'll be busily working away to appease a justly angry God, you'll be equally busily committing more sins to add to the debt. So we see it is far better to be a beggar in Christ than a soul rich in sin!

Yet there is hope in the form of the Gospel, a powerful hope to all those who humble themselves before God. In this message of hope we are offered a Saviour, one whose perfect life accumulated no sins as He fulfilled all the Law fully and faultlessly. He then offered that perfection of life in obedience to the will of the Father, as a full and final payment for the sins of the world. This wonderful Saviour is none other but Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, born of the flesh into poverty and who died in humiliation so that your mountainous and ruinous debt of sin might be removed forever by the shedding of His perfect blood. Then in His eternal grace He gifts not only the forgiveness of our sins but then brings us to share in His peace and glory alongside Him in paradise for all eternity. Call on Christ to clear your debt now!

By Jonathan Badger



Book of Ruth – Part 8

We left our study of Ruth last issue at a tantalising point. Will Boaz agree to become Ruth's husband and as a result both her and old Naomi's kinsman redeemer, or would he turn her away and deny her? As we have seen throughout our studies of this amazing book, Boaz is the reflection of Jesus Christ himself, a wonderful preview of the mercy and grace of the One who would become the kinsman redeemer of fallen humanity.

In chapter 3 verse 8, we see a startled Boaz awake from his slumber as he becomes aware that someone is very close by. Remember Boaz is sleeping next to his harvest to protect it from opportunistic bandits and so being awoken at midnight by another's presence would be concerning! Ruth is quick to provide reassurance that he is not under threat but instead his protection and provision is being sought by herself. Note that Ruth is making this appeal as she is witnessing the out-workings of Boaz's protective and caring nature as he sleeps by his harvest to make certain of its safety personally. Any bride to be would be wise to make certain similarly of the same characteristics in their betrothed. Too many times young couples are swept up in a storm of romantic love and idealistic thinking, and have no real knowledge of the character of the other in vital areas of life such as protection and provision. So again, brides to be, study your future husband and look for a similar character as Boaz so that you may rest easy in his care and stewardship. In this you will both begin married life happy and content in your God appointed roles and wonderful blessings will flow from a glorified God.

We see in verse 10 of chapter 3, Boaz's humble nature shine through in his response to the marriage proposal from Ruth. He does not bask in the submissive act of Ruth, or string out the situation to his advantage. He responds with words of blessing and reassurance to Ruth. We have seen consistently from Boaz that his words are filled with blessings towards others, he is quick and sure to lift up others and not consider his own position or need. Herein we see the very definition of *agapos* or Godly love as

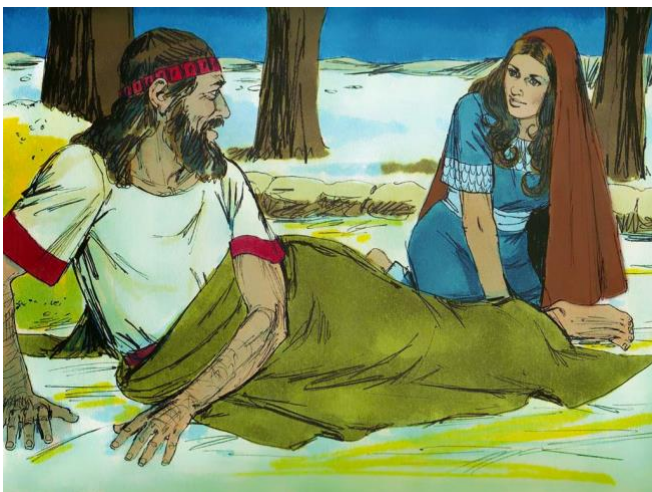
identified by the A.V/KJV translators as "charity" in the famous 'wedding chapter' of 1 Corinthians 13. This Godly love is the dependable, unwavering and unconditional love that all believers rest in knowing that their future is certain, as it is from the very heart of the eternal God. Boaz is quick to show and put into action this wondrous love towards Ruth by reassuring her in verse 11 that he will do as she has requested of him. This is an amazing glimpse of the immediacy of the deliverance given by Christ to all those who submit themselves to Him and call upon Him to act as their Redeemer. He does not leave us waiting, teasing us with maybes or a lifetime of tasks to fulfil to earn redemption. As He showed on the cross to the dying thief, true repentance is swiftly answered with forgiveness immediately given and eternity then assured. How so? Purely through His work, His fulfilment as humanities kinsman redeemer. This is reflected in the actions of Boaz towards Ruth after her appeal in that he takes on the matter from thence forth, leaving Ruth to trust in his fulfilling of the task.

Boaz is moved by Ruth's devotion to him, even though as he acknowledges in verse 10, there are other men who by the world's estimation may be more appealing. Yet Ruth is not concerned with what the world esteems, she values the fruits of the Spirit and one who will nurture her and provide for her with heartfelt love and certainty. So too does Christ appeal to the true repentant, as whilst the world looks on this seeming nobody carpenter from a poor land back in ages past and sees no appeal, the repentant and humbled heart sees His eternal beauty, power and love and knows no other will do for them.

Notice how Boaz commends Ruth in verse 11 by highlighting how 'all the city knows her to be a virtuous woman'. Ruth's faith and endeavour in the face of great hardship has not gone unnoticed by all. Though it often feels when we labour seemingly endlessly with little obvious progress, to an extent that sometimes we question whether we should even bother carrying on doing the right thing; this deeply encouraging verse demonstrates that no labour in faith and trust in God ever goes unnoticed by His gracious eye. We must continue on, even when the work is backbreaking and the future is seemingly as

bleak as can possibly be, we must press on, living in faith and application, trusting that as Ruth's virtuous manner was noticed by all, so too will ours be.

As we enter verse 12 we see yet another glimmer of the glory of Christ Jesus portraitist in Boaz when he highlights that whilst he is a kinsman of Naomi and Ruth, he is not the closest kinsman. This meant that by Hebrew Old Testament law, Boaz would not have priority in taking on the lands and property of the house of Elimelech. It also meant that the task of marrying and fathering a child to the widow (in this case Ruth) so as to carry on the name of the deceased, would also not be Boaz's first refusal. Instead it fell too another relation of Naomi. In such a circumstance, many a virtuous man has seen the hopeful tears in the eyes of his beloved and sought to find a quicker, more assured way of ensuring a favourable outcome for their marriage. Herein a once virtuous man abandons his virtue so as to care for the damsel in distress. This pattern was set in motion back in Eden, when Adam put his love of Eve over his love for God, thus partaking in Eve's initial sin in eating of the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.



Ruth comes to Boaz in the night

Yet Boaz remains strong in his fulfilment of the law, even when his beloved is calling on him longingly to rescue her from her dire situation. He knows he must fulfil the law so to ensure the full blessing of God and thus the future provision of his dearly loved Ruth. So too did Christ know that all the Law must be fulfilled if he was to redeem His bride, the Church. In His hour of spiritual torment in Gethsemane, Jesus asked the Father three times if there might be another way to

redeem lost man. Yet He did not take any shortcut, He fulfilled all that was required of Him, knowing that to satisfy the just wrath of the Father, a pure and full offering must be given.

As we leave verse 13 and the assurance from Boaz to Ruth that he will do everything that she has requested of him according to the law, we see another example of his care and guardianship of Ruth. He instructs Ruth to stay near him as it is the middle of the night and she will be safe under his protection from marauders and bandits. It is such a beautiful representation of how we await our Lord's full and final provision in taking we the Church, into His presence so as to enjoy His eternal splendour in all its radiant beauty and light. Yet as we wait for that hour, He bids us to stay next to Him through the dark hours where evil lurks so that He may watch over us as we patiently for the daylight of our glorification in Him.

Verse 14 brings the early morning sunlight onto Boaz and Ruth as they awake from their sleep. We read that they arise early so as to avoid the temptation to indulge in sexual sin. This temptation would have been strong given the clear love of the two for one another and the evident opportunity to fall into sin. All temptation needs to become easily fulfilled is a powerful combination of desire and opportunity. In this instance, both are before Boaz and Ruth. Yet their mutual desire is love not for each other but for the Lord, as a result they are given the means of escaping the clutches of potential sin by getting up early before any sinful act is committed. They literally move away from temptation and sin as we are instructed to in 2 Timothy 2:22, where we read "Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness".

Note also how Boaz's wisdom is highlighted in how he instructs Ruth to leave him whilst it is still early so as to avoid gossip being wrongly circulated of their time together. We are also to wisely consider each of our actions so that we do not give ammunition to the enemy, even when we haven't committed any sin. Such is the craftiness of Satan for he is very happy to use mud slinging tactics against the followers of Christ so that the name of Jesus might also be tainted in the process. This is where leaders of churches are to be

extra careful of their steps in life as they are in the world's eye as a representation of Our Lord Jesus Christ (James 3:1). If such men are found to have fault in them, the world, motivated by the schemes of Satan, will gleefully trash the name of the church leader and then insist that as the man has fallen so has the power, holiness and glory of Christ Jesus.

The chapter closes with Boaz sending Ruth back to Naomi with more food for their table, again marking his thoughtful and generous provision for them even when they are yet to be united in Scriptural marriage. So too does Our Gracious God cause the rain to fall on the just and the unjust, as fallen men do enjoy daily the common grace of God. Though they are outside the heavenly fold of God's children, such is the immeasurable grace of God in that He sends provision for all His creation. Such wonders make a mockery of the ready if empty accusation of many against God that He is an unloving God because 'bad things happen to good people'.

We leave the chapter in verse 18 as Ruth shares the latest developments with her wise mother-in-law Naomi. A no doubt anxious Ruth would've been bubbling with nervous anticipation at the thought of whether Boaz would do everything he had promised and what the eventual outcome would be. Naomi, the experienced servant of God calmly and wisely observes and reassures the younger, inexperienced Ruth that she need fret not. Naomi, knowing the character of Boaz, tells Ruth that Boaz, "will not be in rest, until he have finished the thing this day." Boaz knows the task at hand and will do everything in his power to bring a conclusion to the matter; Ruth just has to be patient and trust him. As was with Boaz, so too in Christ but all the more magnificent and glorious. For we rest in Christ knowing that He is the author and finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:2), that He will bring all things to pass so that we might be united with Him in peace and glory for all eternity. All we need do is be patient in His work, knowing His pure and beautiful character and trust that He will accomplish everything He has set out to do in leading us to eternal glory.

So we end the chapter with a cliffhanger. Will Boaz succeed in his mission? Will the hoped for union between Ruth and Boaz take place? Will Boaz become the longed for Kinsman Redeemer of Ruth and Naomi? All those that know Christ, see His wondrous reflection in Boaz and know that of course all things will be so, for there is no uncertainty in Christ, the Rock of Ages. For those who do not know the beautiful nature of Jesus, great nervousness, fear and worry will be gripping the heart and mind, as they wait anxiously for a hopeful but deeply uncertain outcome of various circumstances. Which do you desire to have in your life? Certainty or uncertainty? Christ or self? Heaven or Hell? This chapter closes on this most important of questions. Answer the question before the book of your life closes finally.

By Jonathan Badger

Christian Concern

Christians in Britain are rightly fearing for their livelihoods under the growing persecution towards Christianity in this nation. Christian Concern is a ministry designed to support believers in Christ in the workplace and society in general amidst accusations and even arrests for such crimes as street preaching, nurses fired for praying for ill people, teachers dismissed for refusing to take part in transgender indoctrination, doctors facing severe disciplinary action for not supporting gender conversion, ministers suspended for preaching on tolerance and many more apparent crimes.

They're legal team do amazing work in defending these brave souls for Christ and their work is well worth investigating by all believers, especially given the dark days of persecution ahead for Christians in Britain.

Google Christian Concern and see how you can be informed of their work and how you might wish to support their courageous stand for the Word of God in our nation today.

He, Not We, Is Our Maker

Psalm 100: 3 Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

In recent days, American pop singer Demi Lovato has become the latest prominent liberal celebrity to declare themselves “non-binary”, as she denounced her birth gender, and now demands to be known by the pronouns “they” and “them”. Ms Lovato claims that such a decision came “after a lot of healing and self-reflective work”. Much of the everyday, unconverted western world seem baffled by this, but afraid to speak out or challenge such questionable behaviour, for fear of not being seen as “progressive” and potentially being hounded out of social circles, or even their job, for daring to challenge such dogmatic, “woke” views.

However, as believers we should not be surprised by such behaviour as has been exhibited by Ms Lovato and other prominent liberal celebrities in Hollywood. Despite the fact that God formed us in the womb and, as Psalm 100 says, we have not made ourselves, man has been trying to do it on his own since the days of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:1-6). Our Lord gives us plenty of other examples as a warning in scripture, and he does so from the earliest chapters, lest we forget the murderous actions of Cain and the fateful disobedience of Lot’s wife. When man turns away from God, trouble invariably follows. Ms Lovato is just another textbook example of trying to go it alone without God; hardly “progressive”, her actions are nearly as old as time itself. Man is sinful from birth (Psalm 51:5), and pride is perhaps the sin above all others that keeps most people out of the Kingdom. Thinking that we can live without God and get by our own terms is one of the chief causes of problems and eventual spiritual depression among believers too. The dangers of being puffed up in our own imaginations and righteousness is something we’d do well to be on guard of ourselves, as well as having a loving concern for the hearts and souls of those that are outside of Christ.

We live in worrying times, brethren, as the liberal thinkers that promote such ungodly and iniquitous life

choices are gaining much ground in the secular world, particularly with such wide-reaching influence on social media (not to mention TV news stations that happily promote such stories), and to an impressionable, spiritually-troubled generation that have been raised without Christianity in the classrooms. We know the answers to such foolish self-reliance, and that is that man can not save himself. “By grace are ye saved through faith; and not of yourselves: it is the gift of God” (Ephesians 2:8-9). Turning away from our maker and trying to branch out and do it on our own are, at best, futile and, at worst, a one-way ticket to eternal hellfire. It is more important now than ever to spread the Gospel with boldness and be ready to give an answer to those that ask you a reason for the hope that is in you (1 Peter 3:15). While it is important to rebuke the folly, ignorance and pride that lie of the root of such antics, we should do so with a gentle and tender spirit, lest we forget the enmity we had with God before we were saved. On a personal level, I have a good friend (the editor of this magazine, no less) who spent over fifteen years patiently imparting the Gospel message and challenging me on my secular views; it paid off in the end, and the Lord has very often been known to reward such patient endeavour in his own time.

As a closing point, as people around us are more ignorant of the Good News of the gospel message than ever, it’s most interesting to note Ms Lovato’s reference to “healing” and “self-reflective work”. Oh, how much confusion man is bringing upon himself nowadays by reflecting on himself, and not on the work of our Lord Jesus Christ on the cross at Calvary. The hours and hours that people spend paying for psychiatrists and self-help gurus and books, when they could be getting infinitely better treatment by earnestly seeking after truth and bringing it all to the Lord in prayer (as well as saving a good deal of money too!). We can sympathise with the condition and its symptoms, but we have the treatment and a duty to share it. As we reflect on how we were healed with his stripes (Isaiah 53:5), let us preach the Good News to others, that the best healing of all is to be found in trusting in Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Saviour, and reflecting on his perfect work on Calvary’s tree

By John Sivewright

Provision for a Nation

Part 8

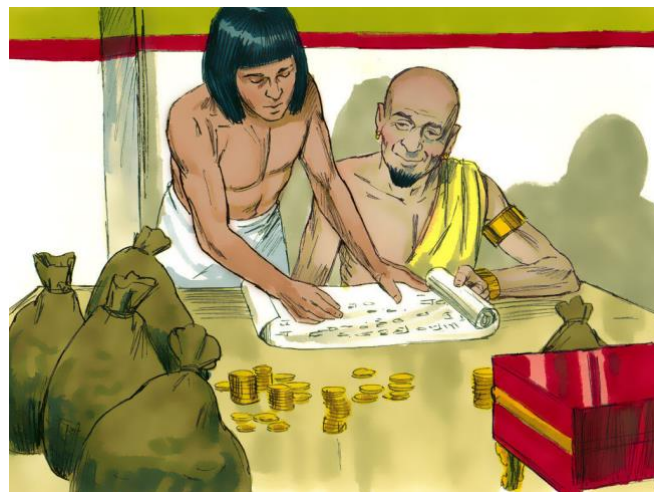
Chapter 39 we will look at over the next couple of articles as once again there is a lot contained, and even still we will but skim the surface. The other reason for the slightly shorter article this month is that my wife and I have had the blessing of welcoming our new arrival into our lives, Noah Elijah Badger born on the 17th of May. To say life has been a little hectic would be a mild understatement.

We return to Joseph's life in Egypt in the home of the captain of Pharaoh's guard, Potiphar, and the first verse of this chapter serves as a form of recap. Chapter 39 stands in some contrast to Judah's story that we looked at last time.

Judah and Joseph had been raised in the same house of their father, but where Judah failed and fell, Joseph in chapter 39 stands and as a result ultimately is victorious. Both were in foreign lands, but where Judah allowed himself to be lax in his morality and conform to the lifestyles of the Canaanites, Joseph elects to stand true to his Godly upbringing, and because of that the Lord was with him (verse 2). Just like the rest of Israel, God's promise to bless the nation is not one that is ever to be revoked or broken, but is effected more fully when Israel is for the Lord. When they fall into idolatry and sin on a grand scale, the promise is never broken on God's side – for this is not possible, but they are chastised and punished. Like a parent whose wayward child brings pain and grief, the father punishes and chastises but never stops loving. But I digress.

Chapter 39 also shows how Joseph is prepared for the time to come. He is seasoned and purged. He learns the skills he will require in his later calling to be God's provider for the fledgling nation of Israel. He becomes familiar with Egyptian life and administration; he is viewed with respect, and grace by his master. For we must not forget his lowly standing as a servant. He came to Egypt as a servant and left Egypt second only to Pharaoh. But as part of this process he had to be humiliated in prison for a crime which he did not commit. By doing so as we have already seen, he was

a foreshadowing of Christ that was to come. But in purely humanly terms it also served a purpose. After rising to a position of greatness in Potiphar's house, he was humbled and forgotten before becoming immensely powerful, lest he think that this was all the result of his own achievement, and in danger of falling into pride and conceit.



Joseph with Potiphar

Going back then to verse 2 we read that “the Lord was with Joseph and he was a prosperous man.” These two things are inextricably linked, and made clear – prosperity was the result of the Lord's grace. Not of Joseph's own ability. Everything we have we owe to Christ for it is all for His giving and His taking away. And we should rejoice in both, just as Job did, as both are to his glory and for our own good.

Verse 3 goes on to show that Potiphar recognised that Joseph's abilities were attributable to his God, and that God was honouring his walk with him with the prosperity that was put in Joseph's life. We must not however fall into the trap that as believers we are due prosperity and wealth, where everything we touch turns to gold. Should that be the plan for you that God directs for your life then it is with the sole purpose of it being used for the glory of God. God can and does equally use sickness, suffering and poverty to His glory and the moulding of our lives to conform us more to Himself. One must remember that in reality very, very few men of God have been truly prosperous, wealthy, powerful men. Throughout history most have been entirely the opposite. Why? Because the love of money is the root of all evil (1 Timothy 10) and absolute power corrupts absolutely

(whilst not a biblical proverb – being attributed to the 1st Baron Acton – it stands as a classic proverb / truism that has stood the test of history).

This is in direct contrast to the high profile ministries of the 'health, wealth and prosperity' movement leaders, such as Joel Osteen, Benny Hinn, Kenneth Copeland, Oral Roberts, Joyce Meyer, Kenneth Hagin, David Yonggi, Todd White etc etc, who teach that health wealth and prosperity are open to all if you just have enough faith, and speak it into existence, along with a generous donation to their ministries of course. These are typically the promises of Satan (the temptations of Christ in the wilderness involved bread for his hunger, and the kingdoms of the world) and have only temporal worth –with no eternal attachments and therefore of no use to Christ. But again I digress.

Verse 3 also shows how because of Joseph's stand and his witness in Potiphar's house, it was a direct causation of him finding favour with Potiphar, and the blessings that came with that which are given in the following three verses. Our witness or stand in our work place or place of education or leisure could be impacting people more than you ever realise. I recall an incident from my time at school. I had a fairly rough time at secondary school, but had throughout stood for my faith. I was bullied mercilessly at times but at the end of my time at the school my parents received a phone call out of the blue from another student's mother. That student had been one of my many bullies but the mother came onto the line and told my father how they were a Christian family and how over my time at the school their son had come home and told them how I stood on my faith day in day out on more than one occasion. I never had ever even remotely seen the faintest glimpse of this from the student himself, but my constant witness was obviously by God's grace and glory having an impact on others that was unbeknownst to me.

We are also reminded of a well known statement that one of the single greatest reasons for people becoming atheists is the professing Christian who acts like the world. As Christians we should stand apart for

by doing so we are honouring Christ and also being a direct witness to those around us by our actions.

Next time we will look at the false accusations laid at Joseph's door and the humiliation and providence that followed.

By David J Badger

William Tyndale, a Brief History.

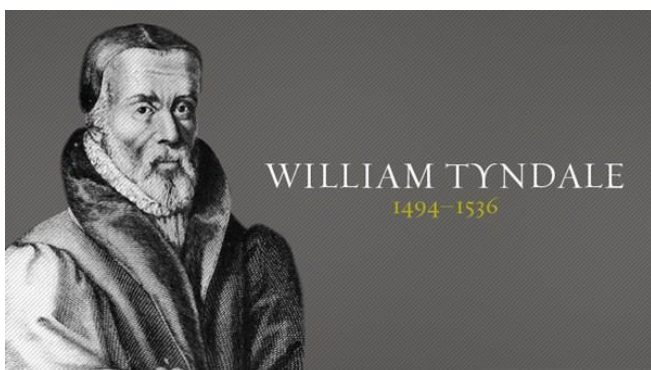
One of the leading figures during the Protestant Reformation and mostly well known for translating sections of the Bible to English, William Tyndale's incredible life and work that he achieved through the grace of God, has brought countless people to the lord by allowing people of the time and still to this very day to be able to read the scripture for themselves. So much of his work is what helped in the creation of the King James Bible that we know and use today. But as with most true history nowadays, his work and even just his name is barely mentioned and is often swept under the rug and forgotten about or not even heard. There is the terrible sadness that a great man such as Tyndale, had to stand up for Christianity against the clergymen of the Catholic church just so that ordinary people could own a copy of the Bible; yet his name is all but forgotten.

He spent his lifetime fighting against the Catholic Church hiding the true understanding and joy of the Scriptures away from the general public. He was an incredible man who has been shunned away and forgotten about. This piece which will most likely span at least a couple of issues and will hopefully give you a broad look at the incredible life of William Tyndale.

Tyndale was born in 1494 in Melksham Court within Gloucestershire. The Tyndale family also went by the name of Hychyns and it was in this name of William Hychyns that Tyndale enrolled at Magdalen Hall, Oxford. He started a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1506 and received his B.A in 1512 which was the same year that he became a subdeacon. In 1515 he was made Master of Arts and was known for being a man of high moral standards. The M.A allowed Tyndale to also start studying theology, but the course did not

include the comprehensive and universal study of the Scriptures of which Tyndale was quoted to have said: "They have ordained that no man shall look on the scripture, until he be noselled in heathen learning eight or nine years and armed with false principles, with which he is clean shut out of the understanding of the scripture." We must not view this as Tyndale saying that it was not easy to understand the theology course, as he was an incredibly well-educated man that could even speak seven languages such as French, Greek, Hebrew, German, Italian, Latin and Spanish, in addition to English. What he is actually saying is that no member of the general public can look upon the Scriptures and that you have to have studied for eight or nine years to become high enough to be able to even look at the Bible. Yet when you did get to the stage of studying the Bible (Catholic version used at the time at least), you find out that you have spent so much time looking at what would lead you astray from what the Word actually states in the accurate translation Bible.

Sadly, this led to many higher up persons within the church taking advantage of the fact that the general public could not understand it. Between the years of 1517 and 1521 he then went to the University of Cambridge, where Erasmus had been the leading teacher of Greek there between August 1511 to January 1512. This was not during the time that Tyndale was attending Cambridge University but Tyndale was influenced by the works of Erasmus of Rotterdam and also Martin Luther.



After his time in university, Tyndale became a chaplain at the home of Sir John Walsh at Little Sodbury in Gloucestershire and tutor to his children at the time of 1521. His opinions were seen as controversial to the fellow clergymen and it

eventually led to him being summoned before John Bell, the Chancellor of the Diocese of Worcester, although no charges were placed at this time. After the meeting with Bell and the other church leaders, Tyndale, according to John Foxe had an argument with a "learned but blasphemous clergyman", who had stated to Tyndale that "we had better be without God's laws than the Pope's". To which Tyndale replied with "I defy the Pope, and all his laws; and if God spares my life, ere many years, I will cause the boy that driveth the plow to know more of the scripture than thou dost." Even after this statement he continued on at the home of Sir John Walsh until 1523.

Tyndale decided to travel to London in hopes to translate the Bible into English. He requested the help from Bishop Cuthbert Tunstall, a well-known classicist who had worked with Erasmus of Rotterdam on a Greek New Testament and had praised Erasmus after working with him. Cuthbert however declined to help saying that he had no room for him in his household. Tyndale preached and studied in London for some time while also lecturing widely, including at St Dunstan in the West at Fleet Street. During his time in London he also relied on the help of a cloth merchant called Humphrey Monmouth. Later on this man who owned a fleet of ships, would help Tyndale spread the Word of God to every corner of the English empire at the time through Monmouth's ships. After the Bishop denied his request and further queries convinced Tyndale that his aim of translating the Bible for the general public would not be welcomed anywhere in England, Tyndale decided it was time to leave for Europe.

By Samuel Badger

My Journey To Finding The Lord.

Times are weird and slightly crazy right now and we are starting to come back to some form of normal after a yearlong pandemic. This strange time has made many people I know question where they are going when their time is up. Have you had that thought? One night I was sat at home looking happily at my husband whilst he played a game on our Xbox, I

was content knowing I would never be without him as we are both going to see each other again once our time is over on earth and we'll join the people we know and love in heaven. It took me a sleepless night to start this article and here is the final result.

This is a very personal story for me as I have been with my husband for just over 3 years now and been married for 1 and a half. During our time together life has not been easy for us. We have lost loved ones, battled my ill-health among other things but we always said we came out stronger and only now I can say why.

My Mother-in-Law was an incredible first witness to me, as I got to watch her love for the Lord grow every day even as her time grew to an end. She was not scared because she knew where she was going and knew she would see her family again. She would often talk to me during our time with her about the Bible, such as different verses which meant a lot to her and would want to understand why I was struggling with accepting the Lord as my Saviour. All this even though she had not known me for longer than a few months because she wanted me to be saved, along with my husband's family. It took a lot for me to understand everything that was being said to me and I would want to know why all this was happening. My in-laws and even my nieces would often talk, text and phone me regularly about it and as much as I listened and took it all on board, there was something holding me back.

It took one night during the lifting of the regulations of the pandemic for my husband's oldest brother and sister-in-law to come visit us in our first home together (which we were by no means planning to get but it fell into our laps, as we thought at the time, I know now it was a massive gift from God). They sat there on our sofa and asked me the most basic question of all, 'Why was I holding back?' I realised at that moment I didn't have an answer for them. Once I had accepted that we spent hours talking about some things which I didn't even realise were holding me back. Below are some of the things I took from that conversation and that night I gave my life to the Lord and He has done even more wondrous things for both

my husband and I since. My hope from this article is that it helps someone like me who sat on the sidelines wanting it but also holding back. You don't need to because He will always give you the answers when He knows you are ready for them. Also if this helps someone who has given their life to the Lord that needs reminding of how much He loves you, it's ok just pray and talk with Him.



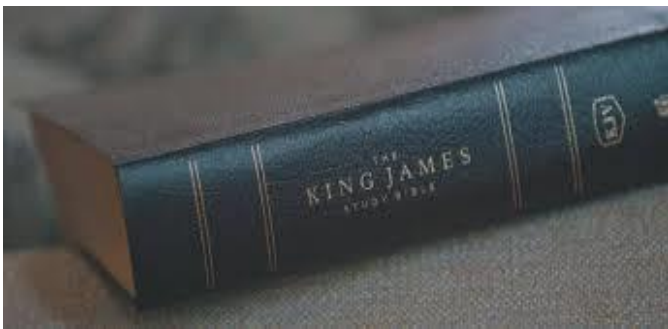
1). We do not need to earn his love, it's already there, we just need to repent of our sins and believe in Christ. As Christians we are understandably judged on Earth by others but we do still make mistakes, stumble and make decisions we should have prayed about first, but we have reassurance of God's love, grace and mercy. Please do not misunderstand what I am saying, we should always try and avoid making these mistakes but we are still human, but do remember we are nothing without his amazing grace and love. [I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. Philippians 4:13 KJV](#)

2) You do not need to know everything to make your commitment to the Lord and you never will know everything in this life. I wanted to know everything before I made that choice but you have to just break the pride and ask Him to guide you. He took me when I was completely broken and I am by no means fixed as my human body will never be. Yet I am content knowing when my time is up, I am going to see my husband again among many other people I love and see the glory of the Lord Himself.

3) Not everything which is designed or advertised for Christian's teaches the right things so you do need to be careful. This does include music, books and TV

shows/films. I can highly recommend Answers in Genesis as a good starting point for documentaries along with anything recommended in this magazine.

4) There are still going to be struggles and hardships, nothing comes easy just because you have the Lord. He has a plan and holds all the pieces together so bear with it even if your plan seems good, His is always better. Sometimes you won't see His great plan until you look back at your life or when you realise you didn't get what you thought you wanted but His plan will always be better. The best things in life are from Him and I am incredibly thankful to Him for mine. *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Psalm 23:4 KJV*



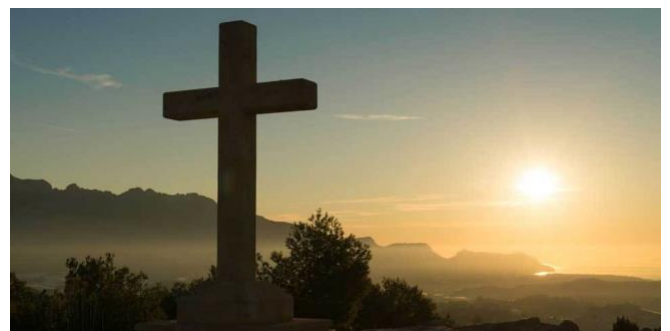
5) You don't always get a huge change overnight. Sometimes you do get an overnight transformation but sometimes it is a gradual change. Both are equally ok and within His plan, sometimes He makes a big transformation in your life straight away, sometimes He makes a small one. Either way He loves you just the same. I have read many a testimony about people being healed, overcoming addictions to various things and along with the Biblical accounts there is this expectation you will be miraculously healed, this is not always the case. I am still very much as unwell as I was before I started my Christian journey with a condition called Fibromyalgia, which there is no treatment and some doctors don't even consider real but I still know I have His love and He made changes in my life in different ways.

6) The sacrifices in life you were afraid to make when a non-believer, like giving up alcohol, gambling, swearing, friends even, will be shown to be a blessing

to you. God moves our desires away from our sinful self to instead delight in Him and His Law. *Exodus 20:1-17 KJV*

7) Prayer- you can do this anywhere, at any time for anything or anyone. This is not reserved for when you first wake up, go to bed and church or just for the bad or the unsure situations. You can take anything to Him but make sure you take time to listen too. Make sure you thank Him for the good things, this can be small blessings or big blessings. I can safely say there have been times where something great has happened and I have quite simply said 'Thank you Lord.' You are not just hoping or wishing, you are praying to our wonderful Lord who listens. You may not have an immediate answer but you will get one when the time fits with His plan. *He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. Psalm 23:2 KJV*

8) Worship and Church – Attending church is an important part of being a Christian. It offers so much such as Fellowship, Discipleship, Ministry and most importantly worship. Worship is not reserved for Sunday only. You should try and worship Him everyday, be it reading a daily devotional or taking time to watch a documentary. Best of all though is to read the Bible. You will not only find the Lord inside a church, it is just a building after all. He lives inside our hearts and you can find Him anywhere. Attending a church can sometimes be difficult as unfortunately not everyone is able to have Sundays off from work to rest like in Genesis. Many church's have multiple services on a Sunday to make it easier for those who cannot attend one or the other sermons. *For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. Matthew 18:20 KJV*



9) The Bible can be overwhelming to a new believer, it

is the Word of God after all, so pray for His guidance and illumination of the text. You will not know everything immediately and you can always explore. A daily devotion is a great way to do this along with an explanation of the verse. You can also get some great Bible dictionaries online which can explain some of the more difficult words should this be what you need. I have one and it has been incredible to help me learn things.

10) You don't have to say anything special to have Him as your Lord and Saviour. Just speak from your heart, humble yourself and be repentant of your sins, then speak sincerely with Him, believing in His sacrifice for you.

I hope this article helps bring you some peace and reassurance if you are going through a difficult time right now or helps you in taking those final steps if you were hesitating for some reason to take the plunge, just like I did not long ago.

By Tara Badger

Look Upon The Lord

Following my Mother's Day article in March, I felt it only right to write a Fathers Day article this month for the celebration of Father's Day on June the 20th. Those of you who know me know that I have lost my earthly father also. My reason for writing this article is similar to why I wrote my Mother's Day article.

My dad you see was an incredibly lost man, probably one of the most lost men I have ever met. He was so miserable most of the time, even if he was doing the things in life that he enjoyed, such as eating out (which he did a lot and took for granted). He was incredibly rude a lot of the time too (to family including myself and my husband), and was not an easy or often even pleasant man to be around. He barely had a nice thing to say and caused a lot of hurt to myself and Jonathan over the years. He was not supportive of me becoming a believer and picked holes in most things I did.

He was an incredibly confused and lost man, even though he did not want for anything. You see when my mum passed away 13 years earlier than what my father did, he came into a lot of money from her insurance policy and pension. (My brother and I saw

none of this which shows how my dad lived his life). He sadly only thought of himself most of the time and had everything he ever wanted... in his property, his cars, motorbikes, motorhome, his dogs, the extravagant holidays he went on, the meals he ate out,... I could go on.

So why was he so miserable, so rude and so lost the non believer may ask? Because he did not know God. Well I say that but he did know of Him, because he would talk of how my Grandad (his dad) attended church regularly before he was called up to fight in WWII. But so sadly, my Dad despised anything to do with the Lord, and I sadly do mean to put such a harsh word as despise. So I have seen first hand how money and things of this world do not bring happiness to us - it is the love of the Lord that we need, not earthly things, and the love of our Lord that will bring us happiness, peace and a happy, calm heart.

Joshua, chapter 22, verse 5 But take diligent heed to do the commandment and the law, which Moses the servant of the LORD charged you, to love the LORD your God, and to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and to cleave unto him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.

Deuteronomy chapter 7, verse 13 And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.

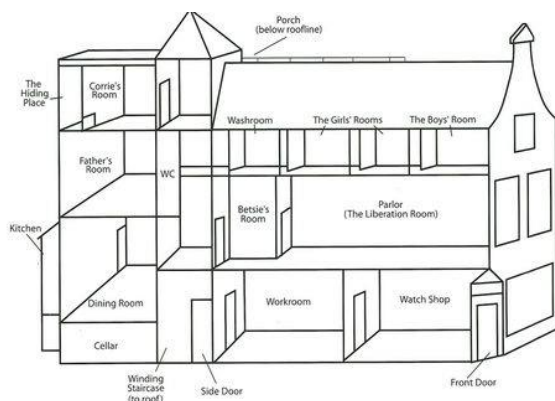
Please pass this on to the people you love so they may know and love God, do not let them slip away and not be at Jesus' side for eternity. Pray they know him and more importantly love Him. and do all for Him, so you will see your family in heaven with you also, not like me.

Happy Father's Day to my wonderful husband of fourteen years on behalf of our beautiful children Naomi and Chloe. He never compromises of his love for the Lord even with me and our girls, and this is exactly how it should be. Happy Father's Day to my super father in law David Badger Snr too. He has been an amazing example of what a earthly father should be to me. In fact happy Father's Day to all the fantastic Dads out there that stand for the Lord and raise their children as Christians in this difficult time. You all do a fantastic job, there is no other love like it for instilling the love of the Lord in your children, it's the most important love they will ever need – the love of their Heavenly Father. God bless you all!

By Donna Badger

The Tramp for the Lord - Part 1

Cornelia Arnolda Johanna Ten Boom (known by many as Corrie Ten Boom) was born in Haarlem in the Netherlands on the 15th April 1892. She was born into a Christian working-class family and was the youngest child of four. Her family were part of the Dutch Reformed Church and parts of the Bible were read daily. The home in which they lived comprised of a shop on the bottom floor and the floors above were the living quarters. This worked fine when it was just 2 parents and 4 children but when elderly aunts moved in it became very cramped. To resolve this problem Mr. Ten Boom bought the house next door, but the levels didn't match as the original house had 3 stories and the new house had only 2 so Mr Ten Boom set about building. There was an alleyway separating them which he closed in and added a third floor to the new house so now the whole house contained 3 stories. They did not know at the time this would become important with what God had in store for them.



Overview of the expanded Ten Boom residence

Corrie led a simple life for many years and fell in love. She fantasised about what a wonderful life they would have together but this changed when he turned up at the family house with her new fiancée. Unfortunately, Corrie's social standing did not meet with the fiancée's mother's requirements. This broke Corrie's heart but she used this to be closer to the Lord and prayed "Lord Jesus, I belong to you lock, stock & barrel. I surrender this part of my being that is wounded". Corrie never looked back after making this decision.

Corrie dedicated her life to looking after her elderly aunts and nursed them until the time of their passing. Corrie and Betsie during this time created a youth club for female teenagers which provided Christian instruction along with key skills for later life such as sewing and hand crafts. Corrie at this time had also started a group for the mentally handicapped within her village and went on to write a small pamphlet called *Common Sense Not Needed* which was about her work with them.

Unfortunately, in 1918 Mrs Ten Boom had a brain haemorrhage which left her bed ridden. This meant a swap around within the home. Betsie became the main housekeeper and looked after their poorly mother, whilst Corrie helped her father with the family business which was established in 1837. During this time, she quickly discovered her love for business and even when Betsie recovered, her role in the shop continued and her sister took over the housework. After training to become a watch maker in the Netherlands in 1922, she completed her course and became the first fully licensed female watch maker in Holland. Home life for the Ten Boom's was sadly interrupted when Mrs Ten Boom passed away in 1921. Though the loss hurt they knew they would be able to see each other again in Heaven. Now with a mainly empty house, the Ten Boom's decided to get involved with missionary work. They looked after a lot of the missionary's children where the children could be separated from their families for years, but they were looked after and sent to school by the Ten Boom's.

Unknown to Corrie and her family, life was going to change dramatically in May 1940 when Hitler invaded the Netherlands in only 5 days. They bombed a lot of the city causing an immediate surrender. The Netherlands during WW1 had received immunity from Germany and it was assumed this would be the case again, sadly it was not. Within weeks new restrictions were imposed which impacted onto her once seemingly normal life. Some of the first of these new regulations closed her youth group along with the banning of radios. Mr Ten Boom managed to hide a radio under their stairs so at night they would gather listening desperately to any news that would

come from London, along with speeches from their Queen who had fled the country to London. One night Corrie was having trouble sleeping due to the enemy bombs and planes. Corrie left her bedroom and went down to the kitchen for some tea, she found Betsie also in the kitchen trying to also calm her nerves. Returning to her room, fumbling through the darkness, Corrie cut her hand on some shrapnel from a bomb that hit near the house "If I hadn't gone to the kitchen, I would have surely been killed" she told Betsie the next morning, her sister replied "There are no if's with God".

At this time, the Jew's had been made to wear the Star of David embroidered into their clothes but they also noticed some of their Jewish friends being rounded up. It wasn't long after this in roughly May 1942 when a Jewish man turned up at their door with a baby. Even though they only lived 3 streets away from the police station, Mr Ten Boom agreed instantly to have the baby stay with them in hiding. As a devoted Christian they were firm believers that Jew's were the 'Chosen One's' and happily informed the women "In this household, God's people are always welcome". After this the Ten Boom family became heavily involved with the Dutch Underground Resistance. Her nephew Peter disguised himself as a Nazi Solidier to be able to assist with this. News reached the Ten Boom's about a Jewish Orphanage in Amsterdam which was about to be raided containing over 100 children. There was no discussion as they were saved with the Ten Boom's help and sent away from the Netherlands. We are unsure unfortunately how many of these children survived WW2. Codes were created to be able to communicate without being caught. The phrase "I have a watch which needs repair" is one of the more famous ones which we know today.

Even though times were difficult and food had become rationed to every Non-Jewish Dutchman; God again provided for them by reminding her about a family whom she helped with her charitable work. She went to speak to them one evening about obtaining a few more ration cards. "I opened my mouth to say, "Five", Ten Boom wrote in *The Hiding Place*. "But the number that unexpectedly and astonishingly came out

instead was, "One hundred". He gave over the cards willingly and then staged a break in so as to not arouse suspicion as every ration card had to be accounted for.

Members of the Ten Boom family started to be arrested, imprisoned and then released again as there was no hard evidence that could be placed onto them about what they were doing. The possibility of a raid was getting higher and higher. At this time 'the hiding place' was made. The Resistance sent an architect to build a secret room hidden within the Ten Boom's home. It was built into the wall and the floor so if the wall was banged then it would not be noticed that it was not a real wall. Sometimes the people in hiding were in the secret room for as long as 48 hours with only a small air vent for fresh air. They were also not allowed to go outside so the upstairs balcony became enclosed. This meant that as long as they remained crouched, the people in hiding were able to get outside for some sunshine for short periods. Multiple buzzers were also installed so that should there ever be a raid on the house, they had 1 minute to get the Jew's being hidden at the time and make the house look like only 3 people were living there. They would have to make practice runs to ensure this happened. The Nazi's favourite time for raids were dinner time so any extra plates had to be hidden or taken with them; or in the middle of the night which meant any mattress in use other than the ones that 3 family members were using would need to be flipped and made to look unused. The secret room was based in the very top corner of the house which was Corrie's bedroom. The only entrance was a small hidden door in the bottom of the wardrobe which would often be hidden by a suitcase.



Ten Boom family

Tragically, the Ten Boom's time in the family home ran out on the 28th February 1944 5pm when a Dutch informant called Jan Vogel, had them arrested following a treacherous visit to the Ten Boom's earlier at 12.30pm. Jan went to the Ten Boom home the afternoon of the arrest and spoke to Corrie who was unwell with the Flu so was not thinking straight. He did not use any of the code words, in fact Corrie has recalled him saying "Will you save my wife? She has been arrested. She has saved Jewish people and now she is in the police station and there is one policeman who will run the risk to set her free if we pay him 600 guilders but I have no money". 600 guilders converted to UK Currency is roughly £260 today. Corrie in the height of fever did not question the man further and instead ushered him out and told him to come back tomorrow.

Most of the Ten Boom family were present at the house that evening as William Ten Boom was holding a bible Study but Corrie was not in attendance. She was suddenly awoken when the people in hiding burst into the room and rushed into the secret room. Mr Ten Boom was given the chance to avoid prison if he stopped helping the Jews (as he had been kind to the officer who had arrested them) but he refused and so was sent with the family to prison.

The Ten Boom family were taken to the local police station before Corrie, Betsie and Mr Ten Boom were sent on to Scheveningen Prison following the discovery of Resistance materials and extra ration cards in their home. Nollie and Willem were released immediately, along with Corrie's nephew Peter van Woerden. He continued working with the Resistance and helped save more Jewish people, primarily Jewish babies.

During their imprisonment, with their noses pressed up against the wall, Mr Ten Boom quoted [Psalm 91:1 KJV](#) "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide [\[1\]](#) under the shadow of the Almighty." They did not know that this moment would be the last time Corrie and Betsie would ever see their father alive as sadly 10 days after his imprisonment, he joined the Lord in heaven. Corrie and Betsie were sent off to be

examined by medical staff and they confirmed Corrie had Pleurisy so she was sent to Solitary Confinement (they did not know at this time it was not a contagious disease). During her 2 months in prison, Corrie received a letter where the writing was slanting up towards the stamp. Carefully she removed the stamp and she discovered a note saying "All the watches are safe." This was referring to the 4 Jew's and 2 Resistance officers that were hiding in the house during the time of the raid and arrest. The letter also contained the news that her beloved father now was in the glory of Heaven. Sadly we think this was not for at least 1 month after he had passed away. We only know now that his body was thrown into a mass grave.

We know from Corrie's talks that she was subject to interrogation during her time in prison also. She stood strong in her faith and nearly converted the person interrogating her. Corrie wrote, "And when we testify to our faith, the Lord touched the heart of that judge and instead of an enemy he became a friend but he had to do his job. And so it happened that suddenly he showed me papers found in my house and to my horror I saw names and addresses and particulars which could mean not only my death sentence, but the death sentence of my family and friends who were in prison. The Judge asked me "Can you explain these papers?" I said 'No I can't' and I felt terribly, terribly unhappy. But he knew better than I about how dangerous those papers were and he turned round, opened the door of the stove and threw all the papers into the flames. My how happy I was at that moment." It was at this moment she understood the verse [Colossians 2:14 KJV](#) "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;"

Another form of relief came when a nurse showed Corrie kindness by providing her a small pocket-sized Bible. It brought great comfort to her & she read from it as often as she could in her dark cell. Corrie was kept in Solitary confinement for a total of 3 months.

By Tara Badger

Family Bible Challenge Corner

Biblical Wordsearch

J	U	T	S	H	T	A	R	W	A
U	E	A	D	J	E	O	T	Y	R
S	J	H	O	L	H	N	R	C	H
T	R	H	O	P	E	E	U	L	S
G	N	V	F	V	M	G	T	I	I
F	L	E	E	E	A	E	H	F	S
S	I	P	E	L	P	S	W	F	E
J	W	D	Y	C	C	I	Y	L	N
U	E	D	A	M	U	S	T	E	E
R	E	M	D	E	V	O	L	R	G

Words to find:

Genesis, Adam, Redeemer, Flee, Eve, Hope, Wrath, Love, Truth, Wycliffe, Jehovah, Just, John

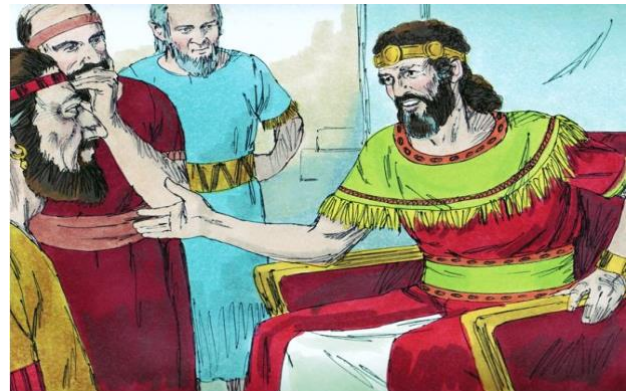
Family Bible Quiz

- 1) How old was David when he was crowned king?
- 2) How long did David reign for?
- 3) What place was Hiram king of?
- 4) How did the Israelites carry the Ark of the Covenant out of the house of Abinab?
- 5) How did Uzzah die?
- 6) What did Michal despise in her heart that David did?
- 7) Did Michal have a child?
- 8) Where did the Ark of the Covenant 'live' before the temple built?
- 9) What was Jonathan's son called?

10) Where did David tell Mephibosheth to eat?

11) What was Mephibosheth's son called?

12) What disability did Mephibosheth have?



David addressing his court

Answers

1.30, 2 Samuel 5:4 2. 40 years, 2 Samuel 5:4 3. Tyre, 2 Samuel 5:11 4. On an oxen, 2 Samuel 6:6 5. He put his hand on the Ark of the Covenant, 2 Samuel 6:6 6. He was leaping and dancing before the Lord, 2 Samuel 6:16 7. No, 2 Samuel 6:23 8. In a tent and in a tabernacle, 2 Samuel 7:6 9. Mephibosheth, 2 Samuel 9:6 10. At David's table, 2 Samuel 9:10 11. Micha, 2 Samuel 9:12 12. He was lame on both feet, 2 Samuel 9:13

Who Am I?

See how many questions it takes for you to work out who this person is!

- 1) The Bible mentions me over 1000 times.
- 2) I went to Nob.
- 3) I walked on a roof.
- 4) My brother thought I was conceited.
- 5) One of my kids died in an oak tree.
- 6) I fought a lot.
- 7) I'm the youngest of eight sons.
- 8) I wrote songs.
- 9) My enemy lost his head.
- 10) I'm a man after God's own heart.



Answer: I am David

A Final Thought

As we witness among non-believers, we come up against many excuses from people as to why they have not taken God at his word and put their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Some may be committed atheists, denouncing the very existence of God and joying in the corruption of living for themselves and laying up treasures in this world. Others may be seduced by false religion, perhaps exhibiting much faith, but having it, tragically, in the wrong place. Some may be not far from the Kingdom of God, but are perhaps stuck at certain doctrinal points, such as the question of suffering, where further gentle, personal witnessing might help get them over the line. But there is perhaps nothing so dangerous as the ignorance of agnosticism. Thinking back to the time before my own conversion, I well remember being so busy with all the cares and pleasures of the world that I felt I “didn’t have time for religion”, “perhaps I’d get round to thinking about it one day” and, to my shame, I “didn’t really care whether there was a God or not”. How lucky I feel now that God had time for me and cared enough about me to open my eyes to the truth found in the scriptures! Further objections may abound, as perhaps we’ll talk to a non-believer who’d tell us “I’d love to believe in God, if only I had some evidence of his existence”. While we should be armed with scripture-based responses to such objections (see Romans 1:19-20), we must persist when witnessing to an agnostic, being sure we get past any smokescreens and arrive at the root of their sloth and inaction. Agnosticism sometimes appears with a certain disarming morality; perhaps an agnostic might seem a perfectly nice chap who just hasn’t got round to thinking about these things yet. Maybe religion seems a bit too combative or intense for him; he just wants a quiet life. But at the Judgement Seat of Christ, in the last day, such people will be treated just the same as anyone else that put not their trust in God’s only begotten Son, and did not take the time to reflect on what was done for them on the Cross at Calvary. When the Lord Jesus divides the sheep from the goats, there will be no difference how one thought of these matters if they were outside of Christ, so we must make sure we deliver the Gospel message with urgency, and much care and attention, to all non-believers, regardless of how they might describe their religious stance.

John 3:36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

By John Sivewright

Useful Extras

There’s a wealth of Scriptural material for Christians to enjoy and be enriched by. Here are a few good starting points to expand your knowledge of the Word of God.

However as Sinclair Ferguson observed, whilst such resources are a wonderful aid in the Christians life, none of them can close to the study of the Bible itself!

Websites:

Answers in Genesis – Young Earth Creationist organisation that provides one of the worlds largest libraries of scientific and apologetic material to defend the Word of God.

answersingenesis.co.uk

Creation Ministries International – Another worldwide Young Earth Creationist organisation producing valuable resources on the evidence for the truth of the Bible.

Creation.com

Truth in Science – A UK based group that works to highlight the fallacies of Evolutionary theory and bring attention to this important issue to schools across the country.

truthinscience.org.uk

Wretched – A multi-platform Christian organisation based in America that provides Biblical TV shows, radio broadcasts, podcasts, books and DVD’s covering a wealth of topics from growth as a believer, current events, evangelism and much more. Also check out their YouTube channel WretchedTV.

Wretched.org

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