

***No. 11***

# ***Living Water* — Issue No 11**

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## JESUS

The *Name* of Jesus, far above  
All other names in heaven or earth,  
O may we all its sweetness prove,  
Its glory, excellence and worth!

The *blood* of Jesus, precious blood!  
The basis of a world of bliss;  
Redemption's price—O give to God  
All praise for such a gift as this!

The *cross* of Jesus, wondrous sight  
When He, the Lord of glory, died!  
Fruit of His travail, we delight  
To hail Him now, the glorified.

The *fame* of Jesus—tell it out,  
Sound forth His praise through all the earth  
Until, with glad triumphant shout,  
Creation wide acclaims His worth.

*Charles Deayton*

*1960*

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## THE MYSTERY OF THE GOSPEL

Romans 16:25–27

Paul, in writing to this company in Rome, in the last chapter of his letter speaks about the need to be maintained and to be in a worshipful spirit. He says, “according to my glad tidings and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery”. I draw attention to the note of the translator, there. ‘The mystery formed no part of what was unfolded in the ages of time, in which God developed His plans in creation, it was a purpose before, and eternally hidden; it was not in reckoned time.’ It is a very wonderful thing that God has brought out from that great treasure of His, this wonderful truth of the mystery. What a privilege that it has been unfolded in our times; David did not have it, Solomon did not have it, Moses did not have it, the prophets did not have it. In our times the wonderful mystery of God has been unfolded.

I want to say this, if I may, that I have carried a concern, that we need to be balanced in our holding and working out the truth of the gospel and the church as they are presented in the scriptures. If you divorce the truth of the church from the gospel you have really lost everything, because you cannot have the church without the gospel. If you think you can go on with the church by itself I believe you have lost both the gospel and the church. But, if you divorce the gospel from the church, you have lost the church and you have lost part of the gospel, too. Please think about these matters, because I see a danger of going down either one way or the other. I think we are obliged to seek to hold the truth of the gospel and the church in balance. I see these truths in this scripture and I see them in many other passages of scripture too.

We are to be balanced christians. Not to be rushing down one way and then rushing down the other way, but to seek to be balanced in our approach and understanding of the truth and the working out of the truth. The Lord would help us, I think, if we are kept dependent upon Him for it.

The Spirit will honour every genuine, earnest desire to be pleasing to the Lord Jesus, because there is a great response coming up. Think of this response welling up in these verses in Romans 16. The gospel has gone out: the glad tidings; the preaching of Jesus Christ; the revelation of the mystery has come about in His gracious ordering; wonderful things “made known for obedience

of faith to all the nations — the only wise God”. I think I prefer the way it is given in the Authorised Version. It says, “To God only wise”. I think I prefer that rendering, because it suggests that God alone has wisdom. Therefore, “To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen”!

How can we hold our peace in the presence of what has come down to us in the day in which we live? It is the glory of the gospel: the glory of God manifest in flesh; the glory of what has come into our lives bringing in deliverance, peace, joy, and satisfaction. Let us rise tonight in this note of praise and thanksgiving to God.

To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen.

*Malcolm Wallach*

### **SOMETHING BEST FORGOTTEN — THE THINGS BEHIND (Philippians 3:8 – 14)**

In reading Paul’s epistle to the Philippians I noticed how often in addressing a company he comes back to addressing the individual. He does not tell them what to do but tells them instead what he was going to do! His main aim was to gain Christ. Christianity is Christ, it is not a system of rules or anything of that kind. Christianity is Christ. The testimony at the present time is the testimony to a Man in the glory. Paul wanted to gain Christ; he wanted to know Him and the power of His resurrection. Then he says that he has not yet obtained the prize; “I do not count to have got possession myself; but one thing—forgetting the things behind, and stretching out to the things before, I pursue”. Some things are best forgotten. The passage does not say specifically what the things behind are. We may get an idea what they are in the previous part of the chapter where he speaks of what he had been as a Jew, but it does not say that. Paul just says, “forgetting the things behind”. Now, beloved brethren, what for us are the things behind? I believe it is anything that would hinder us, whatever it is. There are things that we cling to that hinder us. What may hold you back may be different from what holds me. We perhaps look back thirty or forty years and we realise what a mess we have made of things; we look back

and we realise that at one time our localities were quite large. That is the things behind. Let us think of what is ahead of us.

We are starting a new year; each one of us has the rest of our time; if there is anything hindering at all, anything holding us back, let it go and reach out to the things before as Paul did. Again I say, Paul does not tell his audience to do it; he sets himself forward as an example. He is “stretching out to the things before”. He was “looking towards the goal, for the prize of the calling on high of God in Christ Jesus”. What a wonderful goal to look forward to. Jesus is going to come and He is going to call everyone of us home to be with Himself. What a wonderful thing if we are ready. I do not mean that if we are not ready we will be left behind, that is not the case, but some will have to be taken out ‘by the back of the neck’ as Lot was taken out of Sodom. But I believe the Spirit of God tonight, as we pause at the end of one year and the beginning of another, would have us look forward to the goal and be prepared to move forward and forget anything behind that is going to drag us back. It is what God would have us do.

*George West*

## **THE THRONE**

### **Approaching the Throne Hebrews 4:14–16**

In Hebrews chapter four there is the throne of grace. “Having therefore a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast the confession. ... Let us approach therefore with boldness to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and find grace for seasonable help.” There in glory my precious Saviour has been made both Lord and Christ. The hymn-writer says, ‘On His Father’s throne is seated Christ the Lord, the Living One’. That throne is a throne of grace, and we approach it to receive seasonable help. It says, “they that wait upon the LORD shall ... mount up with wings as eagles”. (Isaiah 40:31).

That reference reminds me of an application of the scripture in Deuteronomy that our beloved brother Mr. Darton gave us many years ago. Speaking of the eagle, he said it builds its nest in the very highest, most inaccessible spot, often on the side of a sheer cliff. It builds that nest of sharp thorny twigs which it breaks off with its strong beak. It then lines the nest with feathers taken from its breast and onto that nest usually two eggs are laid. The young thrive, they begin to get brave and get towards the edge of the nest and they find that sheer drop in front of them. Unable to fly, they look at it and return to the nest. By this time the mother eagle is taking out some of the comfortable padding of the nest leaving the thorns exposed and making it rather uncomfortable for these two reluctant youngsters to stay in the nest. So there they are, perched on the edge, with this tremendous drop in front of them. Quite suddenly, the mother eagle tips one over and it falls into the depths. In sheer terror it opens its wings. The mother eagle swoops down below it and catches it upon her back and brings it back to the nest. After she has done that six or seven times the fledgling has learnt to fly. "I have borne you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself." What a lovely illustration! Even nature itself teaches us.

"...the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and find grace for seasonable help." Do not limit this to the prayer meeting. Support the prayer meeting of course. The prayer meeting is the power house. That is where we get this seasonable help, peculiarly so. But the throne of grace is always there. So that when you get into a fix, not knowing what to do or how to do it, you can resort in spirit to the throne of grace for *seasonable* help. Whenever we need help, there it is—the throne of grace.

"A great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God". He is on the throne. "Behold, the heavens, and the heaven of heavens, cannot contain thee" says Solomon (1 Kings 8:27). Here is a blessed Man who has passed right through all the heavens. He is there in all His glory and He is there on your behalf. And there is not one experience through which you pass, through which He Himself has not already passed—sin apart. He is able to sympathise because He was made perfect through suffering. What does that mean? It means that He came in by a way that He had never been before. In that way He became perfect, through suffering. This great high priest.

## Sent out from the Throne

### Isaiah 6:1-3

I read from Isaiah chapter six where we get a sight of the throne in view of service. I fully realise that the service that Isaiah was called to was not a very happy one. “In the year of the death of king Uzziah, I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up”. It speaks of every other order of man gone, and gone for ever and Christ alone, the supreme and blessed object of the heart. What a sight to see Him there. He is calling you into His testimony, maybe for the first time. Maybe there is someone here who is not fully committed to Him, who has not confessed His precious Name. The Spirit of God would challenge all our hearts.

Let us take account of this amazing sight, “I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and his train filled the temple.” I have never quite understood that reference, save as I like to relate it back to the words of the hymn:—

*‘Thousand thousand saints attending  
Swell the triumph of His train.  
Hallelujah!  
Jesus comes, and comes to reign.’*

What a full result is going to be secured, and you and I, brethren, are going to be with Him. Young people—do you love the Lord? Thank God if you do. You are going to be with Him in the day when He is high and lifted up and His train will fill the temple, and you will see it. You are going to be part of the royal train. “His train filled the temple”, seraphim, custodians of the divine attributes, were there. Each had six wings, “with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he flew. And one called to the other and said, Holy, holy, holy is Jehovah of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!” That is very wonderful.

There are tremendous efforts being made these days, brethren, in many parts of the world, to secure souls for Christ. I hope we are praying for them. Tremendous efforts recently in Tokyo, of all places, which resulted in thousands being secured for Christ. I hope we are giving thanks for that. And so we may go on; there are those who are evangelically laying down their lives for



the truth and the gospel. May they be honoured and their work be wondrously blessed.

It is all leading up to the day when, “the whole earth is full of his glory!” What a day that will be! They will not then say, “Know the Lord”, because everyone will know Him. Old and young happily going on together, “from the little one among them unto the great among them.” (Hebrews 8:11) The glory of the day that is soon to come in this very world. As far as I can see everything will be put right in a very short space of time. Everything that is so terribly wrong will all be put right by the Saviour who is coming to reign supreme. *And the scandal of Calvary will there and then be publicly reversed.* He will be crowned Lord of all on earth, He has been crowned in heaven. What a Saviour, what a wonderful Saviour. I hope everybody here loves Him! I hope every heart has yielded to Him. If not, take advantage of this atmosphere in this hall, and yield your heart to Christ now.

And so it says, “And one called to the other and said, Holy, holy, holy is Jehovah of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!” What about Him now, are you full of His glory? Can you behold this amazing sight even from the standpoint of just the few words I have read from Isaiah chapter six? In mighty power He is going to reign supreme for a thousand years. And we shall see that reign, we shall see it from the grandstand of our place with Christ in glory. We will have part in the church, and there will be diffused through the church the light that shines throughout the millennial earth. What a day it will be!

Now there is something to be done; Isaiah is going to receive a commission. A commission he does not particularly like, but that is not the point. Are you going to receive a commission tonight? Are you going to lift up the banner? Are you going to receive a commission that causes you to surrender your life, your all, as Isaiah says here, “And one of the seraphim flew unto me, and he had in his hand a glowing coal, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar; and he made it touch my mouth, and said, Behold, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin expiated. And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? And I said, Here am I; send me.”

Who is going to be sent from this hall in Musselburgh tonight? Who is the Spirit of God going to send? Will you say, “Here am I; *send* me.”? You have

given your heart to Christ; have you given your life to Him? Have you surrendered your all to Him in the light of the day of coming glory? The Spirit of God might be making a challenge to some heart here. May the language of your committal to my Saviour tonight be, "Here am I; *send* me."

*Ron Gregory*

## CONTINUING

**Ruth 2 :** 4-7, v 23  
**1 Samuel 1 :** 9-13  
**Daniel 1 :** 21  
**Hebrews 1 :** 9-12

We live in a wonderful day, a day when grace is reigning. It is very important to have an appreciation of the day in which we are, we have been brought by God's mercy into a wonderful system of life and care. In such a day the devil would try very hard to make us give up the things of the Lord.

I want to show you from these scriptures four persons who continued; I trust that as a result we will all be encouraged to continue as well. Divine things are worth going in for; they alone will go through into eternity. God's work in our souls goes through; there is no breakdown in it. May we all be encouraged to go in for divine things and find life amongst the people of God. We may be inclined say, 'It is a hopeless situation. Things are too much for me'. Well, the first three scriptures speak of hopeless situations but persons persevered. Let us be encouraged to continue.

In the book of Ruth we are told of a time when the judges ruled. It was a difficult time when every man did what was right in his own eyes because there was no king in Israel. Friend, is Christ enthroned in your heart? If Christ is enthroned in your heart, everything will be held in its right place. There were famine conditions too in Israel in the time of which we read. That is very solemn. As a result of the famine Elimelech and his wife Naomi leave Israel and go into the land of Moab. Things did not improve there, for Elimelech dies

and then his two sons, Mahlon and Chilion, also die. Everything of the inheritance, everything that was hoped for, had gone. The situation was very bleak. But in Naomi we have a woman who in faithfulness and perseverance went on. She tests out her two daughters-in-law and Ruth clave to her, but the other went back. Ruth says to Naomi, “where thou diest will I die, and there will I be buried”. It was total committal. I wonder if we are like Ruth and go on like this. Ruth had no right to anything, in that way she was just like ourselves, but she appreciated what she saw of the work of God in Naomi. Let us be encouraged to gravitate to divine things and to persons who have an appreciation of what is going through into eternity.

They heard in the fields of Moab that God had visited His people and had given them bread. God had come in through mercy to meet the needs of His people. May there be spiritual food in our localities. God in His mercy will answer the desires of hearts that are cast upon Him and will guide us into the place where He is moving in blessing.

Once she is in the land of Israel Ruth is diligent. I challenge my own heart, am I diligent in divine things? As a Moabitess she had no right to anything in Israel but God had made provision for the stranger as recorded in Deuteronomy 24. “When thou reapest thy harvest in thy field, and forgettest a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not return to fetch it; it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow; that Jehovah thy God may bless thee in all the work of thy hands.” Ruth comes to an appreciation of the provision that God had made for her. Are divine things precious to us? If something is precious to us we hold on to it. Are divine things more precious than silver and gold? We have not been redeemed by silver and gold but by the precious blood of Jesus.

Do we have an appreciation of what God has for His people? There is wonderful wealth in the heart of God. Ruth found a field of a mighty man of wealth; she found herself with the maidens of Boaz. When she came into this field, she was taken account of by the one who had the right of redemption. It speak to us of the way we are taken account of by the Lord Jesus Himself. You may think “I am just a number amongst the crowd”, but no! He knows your name. He has an interest in you because He loves you!

Boaz enquires about Ruth. He asks, “Whose maiden is this?” The servant that was set over the reapers told him “It is the Moabitish maiden who came back

with Naomi out of the fields of Moab.” Then Ruth herself says, “I pray you, let me glean and gather among the sheaves after the reapers.” She had desire to gather up a little here and a little there. It should speak to our hearts as to how we are to have enthusiasm in divine things to gather them up and to continue in them. God has His eye upon us. It says of Ruth “She has continued from the morning until now.” It is a wonderful thing to continue in the area where Christ is taking account of each one of us.

We have portrayed here in the book of Ruth a situation of mutuality. The reapers are going on together. It is very blessed to be in an area where persons are working together in love for the furtherance of the testimony of our Lord. Ruth is attracted to this. It is a picture of what our various localities are to be.

Ruth continues to the end of the barley harvest and then to the end of the wheat harvest. The barley harvest in scripture speaks of Christ’s resurrection, because it was the first of the crops harvested, “The firstfruits Christ”. Ruth had an appreciation of Christ in resurrection, an appreciation of the greatness of Christ as a Man who has passed through the heavens, the One and only One who has the right of redemption. The law could not redeem. You and I could not redeem. What a scene we find ourselves in; what a world surrounds us, a world of death and humiliation. But let us continue as having an appreciation of the One who has passed through death, the One who has sat down at the right hand of the greatness on high, a Prince and Saviour!

In Hannah we have a person who is greatly concerned in regard to divine things. The situation in Shiloh is very sad. Eli is an old man; it says that he was sitting upon his seat. That was not the place for the priest; the priest should have been standing, ministering. His sons are under a wrong influence, sons of Belial. Outwardly it is a very black picture. Yet the ark of God is in Shiloh. In view of this, Hannah had concern as she took account of the darkness of the situation about what was due to God. Because of the provocation she endured she was in bitterness of soul. Psalm 102 is described as “A prayer of the afflicted, when he is overwhelmed...”, that is how Hannah was and it is taken account of by God.

Peninnah, Elkanah’s other wife, does not help the situation. She has children and Hannah has not. I understand that Peninnah means ‘coral’ and Hannah means ‘grace’. Hannah is impressionable. Coral is not very impressionable.

Hannah has a concern and she continues until her prayer is answered. The result is that what is due to God is secured. She says: "O Jehovah of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thy handmaid." Think of the concern of the sisterhood; how we should value the prayers and intercessions they make!

Hannah says: "if thou wilt ...remember me, and not forget thy handmaid, but wilt give unto thy handmaid a man child, then I will give him to Jehovah all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head." It is committal to God in regard of what was lacking. As she continued praying before Jehovah Eli thought she was drunk. She was misunderstood. We may be misunderstood at times but let us go on nevertheless as having an appreciation of what is due to God. It is a blessed thing to be able to take account of what is lacking and to be able to bring in what is required to meet the need. There was a great need here. Hannah was intelligent as regards to it.

Sometimes our prayers are very repetitive. I speak for myself, and perhaps it is necessary, but let us pray with feeling and desire as realising that we are praying to a God who hears and answers prayer. Though He may not give us the answers that we want He will give us the best answer to our need. Hannah prays with feeling and desire and her desire is met: Samuel is born. One who in due time will anoint David as king. David, who was a man after God's heart. Hannah persevered until her concern before God was met. Let us be set to continue in the things of the Lord and not give up in any way, as we take account of the greatness of all that we have been brought into as a result of what has been accomplished at Calvary.

Hannah brought Samuel up to Shiloh after he was weaned and presented him to the LORD for the rest of his life. But it does not finish there; she brought a new coat up for him every year. So there is growth and evidence of it. Oh that we may we grow in divine things! Let us be attracted to what God is doing, to the wonderful area of divine blessing into which He would bring us.

When we come to the passage we read in Daniel we have the carrying away of the people to Babylon and the terrible influence of Nebuchadnezzar. It was the young persons that he wanted. It was the cream, you may say, that the enemy seeks to carry away. Our hearts go out to the young ones today, that they may be preserved in the sphere of divine affections.

Daniel and his friends were brought to the king's court to be instructed and fed in relation to what was in Babylon. How appetizing these things may appear. Perhaps we are attracted to the king's delicate food, the food of the world, but there is nothing which would nourish us in the things of God in it. Daniel is one who had the things of God before him; it says that he purposed in his heart that he would not pollute himself with the king's delicate food. Let us see to it that we do not pollute ourselves with the things the worldling feeds the mind on.

Daniel purposed in his heart. Let us have purpose of heart in divine things. If we have that, the enemy will not sway us. Daniel says, 'Try us'. He and his friends were tried and at the end of the time of feeding on pulse and water they were fairer than all the others and "God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom". Daniel continued to the reign of Cyrus, and you and I will continue right through to the end if we rely on the divine feeding. There is nothing like it; it brings sustenance, and building up, it is something to go in for, over against what is only for a season. The things of this world may be attractive to us but they will not build us up in the things of the Lord. May we be attracted to what is of Christ so that we may continue and not fall by the wayside.

The last scripture I read has affected my heart greatly because it speaks of the One who continues still, the blessed Lord Jesus Himself. What a Person Jesus is. I wonder if each one of us here knows Him as our own personal Saviour. He has been established as heir of all things. He is the creator of the universe. Think of Jesus coming into humanity to fulfil the will of God. No wonder the heavens could be opened and the Father declare His full delight in that glorious Man who is carrying everything through for the pleasure of God eternally. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. What it has cost Him! Isaiah 50 says that He set his face as a flint. He did not deviate in any way but went forward in the will of God.

He went into the wilderness, and there He was tempted of the devil. How solemn to take account of the Saviour being tempted in that way. He met the tempter every time with the word of God from the scriptures. How attractive it is to our hearts to take account of Him. It says: "Thou hast loved righteousness and hast hated lawlessness." What does it mean? It means that He loved to do what was right. Let us examine our own hearts; how we are challenged in these things! Do we love to do what is right? Jesus did: and He hated lawlessness;

“therefore”, it says, “God, thy God, hast anointed thee with oil of gladness above thy companions.” He is above every man. Think of the greatness of that Person, “*Thou* in the beginning, Lord, hast founded the earth”. He is the Creator of the universe, What a Person! That is Jesus. Does it not affect your heart to take account of this glorious Person and the way He went to the cross on your behalf and mine. What does Calvary mean to you, friend? Calvary was the place where Jesus bore the judgment that was due to me. The One who knew not sin was made sin there that we might become God’s righteousness in Him—what a Saviour!

He is the One who shed His precious blood for you and for me; Jesus went that way for me. Can each of us say the same from our heart? Let us have a greater appreciation of Him as the Creator, the Saviour, the Shepherd, the Friend. What a person is Jesus and He continues still. He ever lives to intercede for us, a Man who has gone into death, who has broken the bands of death, who was raised by the glory of the Father, and is in glory as a Prince and a Saviour, One who continues still. Friend, do you know Him as your Saviour? Have you an appreciation of Him as your Lord? He desires to have your affections. He has shown His love for you in all its fulness at Calvary. If you have never in your heart been to Calvary before, I would invite you to go there now. Take a look at the Saviour, the One who was there for me. Was He there for you?

“*They* shall perish, but *thou* continuest still; and they all shall grow old as a garment, and as a covering thou shalt roll them up, and they shall be changed; but *thou* art the Same, and thy years shall not fail”. Is there anything else that has such stability? No, everything that is stable is based on the finished work of Jesus at Calvary and He is carrying everything through in its entirety for the pleasure of God eternally. May we be with Him in it and be encouraged to continue in a day of brokenness and smallness, and have an appreciation of the wonderful system of divine life and blessing that God has brought us into as a result of the finished work of Jesus.

*James Buchanan*

**“And thou, return unto thy God: keep loving-kindness and judgment, and wait on thy God continually.” (Hosea 12:6)**

## FIVE WORDS

**I Corinthians 14:19. John 1:36**

They heard John speak, and quickly they  
Another pathway trod;  
Five words with understanding  
given—  
*Behold the Lamb of God!*

A model servant here we find,  
A messenger indeed,  
His words rang true, as sent by God  
His holy rights to plead.

He spake of Christ, and Christ alone,  
It was his humble lot,  
When pressed as to himself, he said  
Just simply—*I am not.*

The sermon, eloquent in words,  
May lack a message true—  
*Five words* may, by the Spirit's  
power,  
Bring JESUS into view.

Ten thousand words in unknown tongue  
Can never save a soul—  
*Five words* may serve, when used by  
God,  
To make a sinner whole.

This lesson let us take to heart,  
If we would serve the Lord,  
To give the message we are given,  
And simply speak His word.

*Charles Deayton*

*September  
1962*



## DISPLACEMENT

**Matthew 17:20. Zechariah 4:7. Psalm 30:11**

Give me faith to move the mountain  
That I find myself to be,  
Thou alone, Lord, art the Fountain  
Of true life and liberty!

Turn me from myself as centre,  
And the flesh where no good dwells,  
Draw from Thee divine infusion,  
Water from salvation's wells.

Turn depression into gladness,  
And the mountain to a plain,  
Give the oil of joy for sadness,  
From Thy hand eternal gain.

Thou the Fount of every blessing,  
Thou the Source of every grace,  
Be Thou all to me, Lord Jesus,  
In my heart all else displace.

Give me, by the Holy Spirit,  
To be occupied with Thee,  
And in spirit, soul and body,  
In Thy glorious headship free.

*Charles Deayton*

*November 1962*

## IT IS THE LORD

John 21:7.

They toiled all night and nothing caught,  
Their labour was in vain,  
For *without Jesus* what avails  
But weariness and pain?

The morning breaks, behold Him there  
As on the shore He stands,  
So full of grace, and love and power—  
All things are in *His* hands!

“Children”—how tenderly He speaks!  
Surely it is the Lord,  
Their labour now is not in vain,  
As they obey His word.

When through the night *we* ’ve toiled in vain  
And weary, spent and sore,  
How good to see the morning break  
And *Jesus* on the shore!

He turns our sorrow into joy,  
Our labour now is blest,  
As under His control we move,  
Then ’neath His shadow rest.

*Charles Deayton*

1958

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BIBLE**

... may I urge you ... not to just listen to what the preacher says, but take time regularly to read the Bible at home as well. ... Do not make excuses and say you are too busy with your ordinary affairs ... the more you are troubled the more you need to read the Bible. ... You are in the middle of this godless world's stormy sea and you need spiritual help to see you through. You worry about your family, people spread rumours about you, you suffer from poverty, you meet with success... Where can you find a suit of armour or a castle to protect you but in the Bible.

The craftsman will never sell or pawn his tools however poverty-struck he is, for once he has sold them how would he earn a living again? ... Just as the hammers, saws and chisels are the tools of the carpenter so all scripture, inspired by the Holy Spirit, are the tools of our daily salvation.

*John Chrysostom*

## **COMMUNION WITH GOD**

My child, it is not necessary to know much to please Me; it is sufficient to love much. Speak to Me as thou wouldst to a mother, if she drew thee near to her.

Are there any for whom thou wouldst pray to Me? Repeat to Me the names of thy relations, thy friends; after each name add what thou wouldst have Me do for them. Ask much, ask much; I love generous souls who forget themselves for others.

Tell Me of the poor whom thou wouldst relieve; the sick whom thou hast seen suffer; the sinners thou wouldst have converted; those who are alienated from thee, whose affections thou wouldst regain.

Are there graces thou wouldst ask for thyself? Write, if thou wilt, a long list of what thou desirest, of all the needs of thy soul, and come and read it to Me.

Tell Me simply how proud thou art, how sensitive, egotistical, mean and indolent. Poor child; do not blush; there are many in heaven, saints who had thy faults; they prayed to Me, and little by little their faults were corrected.

Do not hesitate to ask Me for blessings for the body and mind; for health, memory and success. I can give all these things and I always give when My blessings are needed to render souls more holy.

Today what wilt thou have, My child? If thou knewest how much I long to do thee good! Hast thou plans that occupy thee? Lay them all before Me. Dost thou wish to give pleasure to thy mother, to thy family, to those on whom thou dost depend? What wouldst thou do for them?

And for Me, hast thou no zealous thought for Me? Dost thou not wish to do a little good to the souls of thy friends who perhaps have forgotten Me?

Bring to Me all thy failures, and I will show thee the cause of them. Hast thou not troubles? Who has caused thee pain? Tell Me all, and thou wilt finish by adding that thou wilt pardon, thou wilt forget; and I will bless thee.

Dost thou dread something painful? Is there in thy heart a vain fear which is not reasonable, but which is tormenting? Trust yourself wholly to My care. **I am** here. I see everything. I will not leave thee.

Hast thou not joys to make known to Me? Why dost thou not let Me share thy happiness. Tell Me what has happened since yesterday to cheer and console thee. An unexpected visit that did thee good: a fear suddenly dissipated: a success thou thoughtest thou shouldst not reach: a mark of affection? a letter? a gift which thou hast received. I have prepared it all for thee. Thou canst show thy gratitude and give thanks to Me.

Art thou resolved no longer to expose thyself to temptation—not to finish this book which excites thy imagination, no longer to give thy friendship to a person who is not godly, and whose presence disturbs the peace of thy soul? Wilt thou go at once to do a kindness to this companion who has hurt thee?

Well, My child; go now; take up thy work; be silent, humble, submissive, kind, and come back tomorrow, and bring Me a heart still more devout and loving; tomorrow I shall have more blessings for thee.

## NOW YOU ARE A CHRISTIAN

**Cleave to the Lord with purpose of heart.** Depend on Him. There is power in Christ for all He would have you to do or be. Some are allowed a long season of joy on first believing. But God knows our hearts, and how soon we begin to depend on our joy, and not on Christ. He is our object—not the joy.

Sin no longer remains on you, but the flesh is in you to the end: the old stock will put forth its buds, which must be nipped off as they appear. No fruit can come of it. It is what is new that bears fruit unto God. But though the flesh is in you, do not be thinking of this, but think of Christ. As you grow in the knowledge of Christ, a joy comes that is deeper than the first joy. I have known Christ more or less between thirty and forty years, and I can truly say I have ten thousand times more joy in Him *now* than I had at first. It is a deeper calmer joy. The water rushing down a hill is beautiful to look at, and makes most noise; but you will find the water in the plain deeper, calmer, and more fit for general use.

**Cleave to Christ with purpose of heart.** A distracted heart is the bane of the believer. When we have got something that is not Christ we are away from the source of strength. When my soul is filled with Christ I have no heart or eye for the trash of this world. If Christ is dwelling in your heart by faith it will not be a question with you, 'What harm is there in this or that?' But rather, 'Am I doing this for Christ?' 'Can Christ go along with me in this?' Do not let the world come in and distract your thoughts. It all lies shining before you, endeavouring to attract you. Its smiles are deceitful; still it smiles. It makes promises that it cannot keep; still it makes them! your heart is too big for the world; it cannot fill it. Your heart is too little for Christ: He fills heaven, He will fill you to over-flowing.

**Cleave to the Lord with purpose of heart.** He knows how treacherous the heart is, and how soon it would put anything in His place. You will have indeed to learn what is in your own heart. Abide with God and you will learn it with Him, and with His grace. If you do not, you will have with bitter sorrow to learn it with the devil, through his successful temptation. But God is faithful. If you have been getting away from Him, and other things have come in, and formed a crust, as it were, over your hearts, you will not at once get back the joy. God will have to deal with this crust, and get rid of it. Remember Christ

bought you with His own blood, that you should be His, not the world's. Do not let Satan get between you and God's grace. However careless you may have been, however far you may have got from Him, count on His love. It is His joy to see you trusting in His love. Mistrust not His work, mistrust not His love. He has loved you, and will love you to the end.

**Cleave to the Lord with purpose of heart.** Talk much with Jesus. Never be content without being able to walk and talk with Christ as a dear friend. Be not satisfied with anything short of close links of soul with Him who has loved you and washed you from your sins in His own blood.

*J. N. Darby.*

## **SCIENCE AND THE BIBLE**

### *The Personal Testimony of Ulric Jelinek*

The Bible and science must interpret each other, because God is the author of them both. If there is any disagreement in our minds between them you will find that it is either because there is something wrong with the observation of the facts or the interpretation of them.

Now, generally, what can science do for the christian and what can the christian do for the scientist? In the first place I think that science can confirm and clarify scripture. In 2 Peter 3:10 it says that; "The elements shall melt with fervent heat". That takes on a new meaning to us now in the atomic age.

I believe that the language of the Bible was the language of the common man. It was written in the culture of the day. I am not of the school of thought that tries to smuggle into scriptures concepts that are not there. I believe that much harm has been done in the past by that. The Divine guidance in the writing of Scripture lay in the fact that none of the writers tried to interpret what they wrote in the light of the science of their day. Had they done so the Bible would be full of grotesque errors as are many of the books of today.

Now the Bible is not a scientific textbook. If it were it would have needed to be written in terms of final science and it would be a lost book to men of all ages.

Under Divine guidance men did not attempt to interpret what they were told to write. I will give you an illustration of that. In Jeremiah 33 verse 22 there is a very simple statement; “The host of heaven cannot be numbered.” Yet 450 years after Jeremiah made this statement, Hipparchus, the great scientist of his day, said there were exactly 1026 stars in the Universe. One hundred and fifty years later Ptolemy said there are not 1026 stars in the Universe but 1056 stars. He may have looked up on a clearer night! 1610 years later Galileo invented the telescope and said that there are more stars than this. And as men have developed better and better instruments, they have discovered more and more stars; and as a matter of fact they tell us that in our own Galaxy, the Milky Way, there are 270 billion stars.

A couple of years ago I spoke to a group of men at Grand Rapids and I said that we had about 2 million of such Galaxies, and I was right up to date. About 2 months later in the National Geographic they gave us the report of the two hundred inch telescope, and they said there are not 2 million Galaxies but there are trillions of them. And now we can say officially that “The host of heaven cannot be numbered.” We have just caught up with Jeremiah!

Now what view does the Bible have for science or nature? Number one, the Bible’s view is that God is the Almighty Creator of heaven and earth. Nature, or science is a tribute to the majesty, to the wisdom and to the benevolence of God. But science can enhance our concept of the greatness of God.

We have a verse in Psalm 19 which says, “The heavens declare the glory of God.” I never understood that until I spoke to a group of men at Teterboro, Ontario. I was on the atomic energy work up there and the heads of General Electric were there. They took me for a trip through their plant. As I went from department to department I looked at the great big turbines they were building and shipping all over the world and I thought to myself, ‘Now, what are these fellows trying to impress me with?’ And the thought came to me—they were trying to impress me with the glories of General Electric! Then this verse came to me, “The heavens declare the glory of God”.

What kind of trip would it be if God took us through the heavens and showed us His glory? The first stop would be our little solar system, the Sun with all the planets revolving round it. Now, just to give you a measuring stick, the closest planet to the Sun is Mercury, thirty six million miles away and takes 88 days to go round the Sun once. The third nearest planet is our earth, 93 million miles away which of course takes one year to go round. The farthest planet is Pluto, it is three thousand million miles away and takes 248 years to make one revolution.

Someone said, 'Do you think God is going to allow man to conquer space?' I said that of course he can go as far as he wants to. But how far can you go? If you wanted to get to the next galaxy you would have to travel at 186,000 miles per second, the speed of light, for 900,000 years! You would be pretty old by the time you got back. And there are billions of such galaxies. You see with our finite minds we cannot even comprehend endless time and endless space. How can we comprehend God? We cannot comprehend spiritual things unless God gives us the ability to comprehend.

I sat and thought about this—"The heavens declare the glory of God". I said: 'O God forgive me, for being like 99% of christians. All my life I have pulled You down to my concepts.' As I sat and thought about it I started to worship God for Who He is, rather than what He can do for me. My heart is sick whenever I hear christians say to someone, 'Well, you receive the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be happy', or, 'you will be a success in business', or, 'receive the Lord Jesus Christ and you will go to heaven' Such a cheap motive for following Christ! Did you ever worship God for Who He is rather than for what He can do for you? I did.

Now the Bible says the Universe is maintained by the power of God. He sustains the physical, spiritual and moral order. The regularity of nature is a measure of the consistency of God. The laws of nature are the laws of God. There are examples of that. In Genesis 1:20-25 we have that life shall produce their young after their kind. God takes in the whole science of genetics in one statement. Man is filling in the details. For 50 years man has been experimenting with *Drosophila* fruit fly which reproduces itself every four days. They have reproduced the equivalent of one hundred thousand years of man's life in the laboratories, and whenever they have got a different chromosome number the offspring has been weak or unable to reproduce itself. So after reproducing



100,000 years of life, the result? —fruit fly. You know why? Because the Bible says they shall reproduce after their kind.

Another interesting statement in the Bible is Genesis 8:22 is, “While the earth remaineth, seed-time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.” The seasons must come in their time, God says. Did you ever analyse a statement like that? The sun and the moon and the stars function according to ordinances that God has put there. In Jeremiah chapter 31 it says, “Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night”. But He says in Genesis the seasons must come in their times. What makes the seasons? The revolution of the earth around the sun. Here is this great ball, six thousand million million million tons, rotating around the sun. It is spinning around its axis at the rate of 1000 miles an hour. It is going round the sun at a rate of 1140 miles an hour, and it is going with the sun at the rate of 780 miles an hour. Three directions at the same time! In its rotation round the Sun the earth covers between five and six hundred million miles a year. If it lost only five seconds every million miles, the seasons would be six months out of kilter from Adam’s time until now. But God said ‘No, the seasons must come in their time’. Did you know that the earth does not travel in a true circle? As it goes closer to the sun it travels faster and as it travels further away it travels slower. All the planets are exerting a pull on it to get it off course, but in all its travels it does not lose more than a thousandth of a second in a hundred years. Man thinks he knows something about precision, but compared with God we have not even scratched the surface.

The same God who says that the seasons must come in their time is the God who says that the soul that sinneth it shall die. God is no less exacting in the spiritual than He is in the scientific. Jesus Christ did not say, ‘I am a way’. Science is very exacting— Right? There is only one right way. Jesus Christ said, ‘I am *the* Way’. You can only come to God on His terms. “I am the way” (John 14:6).

In Colossians 1 verses 16 and 17 it says: “By him”—by the Lord Jesus Christ—“were all things created, ...and for him: and he is before all things, and by him all things consist”—or are held together. The holding force of the entire universe is the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the Centre of it; and unless our lives rotate around Him as the Centre, we are out of phase with the entire design of God.

There was a time in my life when I was as ignorant of spiritual things as any heathen. I was so ignorant that I thought Jesus Christ was the God of the christians and Moses the God of the Jews. Until one day I went to a church service, and there for the first time in my life I heard that I was born in sin, and that I could do nothing about it. Ignorant as I was, I knew instinctively that I needed God. I could not wait for that preacher to stop preaching. I was under such conviction that I went and knelt down and said, ‘O God forgive me a sinner.’

I received the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour. This is God’s way. Now let me press this home to you; it is not the church or the denomination you belong to, the job you have in the church, the money you give to philanthropic organisations, the time you spend in christian activity, that will get you any where. This is not the basis. You cannot develop by this principle. There is nothing the natural man can do to become spiritual. God has said you have to come on His terms. And when I came on His terms and I recognised myself as a sinner before God, I received the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour and He put from the outside in, a new life. And this has changed the entire course of my life. It has given me a new motivating force and Jesus Christ is now the Centre around whom my whole life rotates.

*Ulric Jelinek*

## **THE REGIONS BEYOND**

**“...to preach the gospel in the regions beyond you”**

( 2

Corinthians 10:16)

These words, while they set forth the large-heartedness of the apostle Paul, also provide a fine model to the evangelist in every age. The gospel is a traveller and the preacher of the gospel must be a traveller likewise. The divinely-qualified and divinely-sent evangelist will fix his eye upon “the world”. He will embrace the whole human family. From house to house, from street to

street, from city to city, from kingdom to kingdom, from pole to pole. Such is the range of the “good news” and the publisher thereof. “The regions beyond” must ever be the grand gospel motto.

No sooner has the gospel lamp cast its cheering beams over a district, than the bearer of that lamp must think of the regions beyond. Thus the work goes on. Thus the mighty tide of grace rolls, in enlightening and saving power over a dark world which lies in the “region of the shadow of death.”

Christian reader, are you thinking of “the regions beyond you”? This expression may, in your case, mean the next house, the next street, the next village, the next city, or the next continent. The application is for your own heart to ponder: but are you thinking of “the regions beyond you”? I do not want you to abandon your present post at all; or, at least, not until you are fully persuaded that your work, at that post, is done. But, remember, the gospel plough should never stand still. “Onward” is the motto of every true evangelist. Let the shepherds abide by the flocks; but let the evangelists betake themselves hither and thither, to gather the sheep. Let them sound the gospel trumpet far and wide to gather together the elect of God. This is the design of the gospel. This should be the object of the evangelist, as he sighs over “the regions beyond”.

When Cæsar beheld from the coast of Gaul, the white cliffs of Britain, he earnestly longed to carry his arms thither. The evangelist, on the other hand, whose heart beats in unison with the heart of Jesus, as he casts his eye over the map of the world, longs to carry the gospel of peace to “the regions beyond”.

It would, I believe, be a profitable question for many of us to put to ourselves as to how far are we discharging our holy responsibilities to “the regions beyond”? I believe the christian who is not cultivating and manifesting an evangelistic spirit is in a truly deplorable condition. I believe, too, that a local company which is not cultivating and manifesting an evangelical spirit is in a dead state. One of the truest marks of spiritual growth and prosperity, whether in an individual or in a church, is earnest anxiety after the conversion of souls. It is hard to believe that “the word of Christ” is “dwelling richly” in any one who is not making some effort to impart that word to his fellow sinners.

It does not matter what the amount of effort is; it may be to speak a few words to a friend, to give a tract, to write a note, to breath a prayer, but one thing is

certain, that a healthy, vigorous christian will be an evangelistic christian—a teller of the good news—one whose sympathies, desires and energies are ever going forth towards “the regions beyond”. ‘I must preach the gospel to other cities also: for therefore am I sent’. Such was the language of the great Evangelist.

It is very doubtful whether many of the servants of Christ have not erred in allowing themselves, through one influence and another, to become too much localised—too much tied to one place. They have dropped into routine work—into a round of stated preaching in the same place, and in many cases, have paralysed themselves and paralysed their hearers also. I speak now not of the labours of the pastor, the elder, or the teacher, which must be carried on in the midst of those who are the proper subject of such labours. I refer more particularly to the evangelist. Such a one should never suffer himself to be localised. The world is his sphere—“the regions beyond”, his motto—to gather out God’s elect, his object—the current of the Spirit, his line of direction. If the reader should be one whom God has fitted and called to be an evangelist, let him remember these four things—the sphere, the motto, the object, and the line of direction, which all must adopt if they would prove fruitful labourers in the gospel field.

Finally, whether the reader be an evangelist or not, I would earnestly entreat all to examine for themselves how far they are seeking to further the gospel of Christ. We must not stand idle. Time is short! Eternity is rapidly posting on! The Master is most worthy! Souls are most precious! The season for the work will soon close! Let us then, in the name of the Lord, be up and doing. And when we have done what we can in the regions around, let us carry the precious seed into “the regions beyond”.

*Charles H. Mackintosh.*

**“Sing unto Jehovah, all the earth;  
Publish his salvation from day to day.  
Declare his glory among the nations,  
His wondrous works among all peoples.  
For Jehovah is great, and exceedingly to be praised;”**

(1 Chronicles 16:23–25)