BEACON LIGHTS

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"Let you light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."
Matt. 5:16

New this issue -
"Little Lights" -
a page for children

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Table of Contents

EDITORIAL
1 **The Riddle of a Key Issue**
by Bruce Miedema

The riddle of "Bill Clinton's Faith" is discussed

GUEST ARTICLE
2 **Rejoice In Your Youth (II)**
by Rev. C. Hanko

PRAYER
4 **Prayer of the Devout Family**
by Elizabeth Hilton Buys

The author shows how we can prepare for prayer and lists five main components of what a family's prayer should be.

TULIP
6 **Perseverance: Patti's Problem**
by Calvin Kalsbeek

This is the last article in the TULIP series. It is a story about a young girl who can't get a good night's sleep until she has resolved her difficulties.

DEVOTIONAL
7 **Watching Daily at My Gates**
by Skip Hunter

WINDS OF DOCTRINE
11 **Scholasticism**
by Prof. Herman Hanko

What happens when the philosophy of the world is merged into doctrine? This is what happened in the Middle Ages.

GUEST ARTICLE
13 **The Church in Tasmania**
by Rodney Kleyn

BOOK REVIEW
15 **Faithful Witness: The life and Mission of William Carey**
reviewed by Allen J. Brummel

LITTLE LIGHTS
17 **A Little Story**
by Connie Meyer

"Little Lights" is a special page for children. Look for it every month!

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The Riddle Of A Key Issue

by Bruce Miedema

Mr. Bill Clinton (president of the United States) has, in the past, courted the minorities (people of color, women, etc.), the union, and special interest groups in his bid for the presidency and now has begun a relationship with the *evangelicals* of our day. Mr. Clinton has called on some we known evangelical Christian leaders to spend the night, as his guests, at the White house, and for others he has arranged to have breakfast meetings.

In the April 25, 1994 issue Christianity Today Editor-at-Large Philip Yancey reviewed in an article entitled, "The Riddle of Bill Clinton's Faith", what has come to be known as "The Controversy" (Mr. Clinton's ever-growing relationship with evangelical Christians). Yancey elaborated on *key issues*, of which evangelicals doubt Mr. Clinton's sincerity. Yancey quoted several scathing remarks concerning Mr. Clinton's position on these key issues and concluded, "When it comes to Bill Clinton, I sense in many Christians a feeling beyond anger, something closer to betrayal" (p.24). The first one hundred days of Mr. Clinton's presidency saw the enactment of new policies easing abortion restrictions and talk of resumed fetal tissue research, expanding homosexual rights, and the appointment of staff members who are opposed to the religious community. Did those Christians who felt betrayed really think anything different would happen? We all heard his campaign and knew going in essentially where he stood on the key issues. It was the issue concerning abortion with which Yancey dealt most extensively in his article.

Mr. Clinton is a very capable man who claims to be a Christian. He grew up in Bible Belt Arkansas as a Baptist and married a life-long Methodist and "today", says Yancey, "feels most at home with the more emotional worship style of African-Americans and Pentecostals" (p.26). Mr. Clinton attended Georgetown and Yale universities, and then as a Rhodes Scholar he attended Oxford in England. Among other things, Mr. Clinton has proved himself to be a capable speaker. According to Yancey, "school teachers thought young Bill might grow up to be an evangelist" (p.26). And so the riddle begins.

In his interview with Mr. Clinton and subsequent article, Philip Yancey exposes the key to Mr. Clinton's riddle concerning abortion and maybe the key to all of his riddles. Mr. Clinton does not have perseverance, and he lacks perseverance because he adheres to no Divine Standard.

As a young man, Mr. Clinton assumed that life began at birth. However, over the last few years he has become less certain about when life begins. He seems to grapple with the issue but still can't come to a clear answer. Mr. Clinton seems to get stuck with the issue when he tries to make, as he states, "a sophisticated judgment about personhood which is really a spiritual determination and not a biological determination..." (p.29).

The key to this riddle concerning Mr. Clinton's position on abortion is born out in his comment, "The truth is, no one knows when the spirit enters the body" (p.29). However, this true confession only makes the matter more difficult for believer and unbeliever alike to understand how Mr. Clinton can shift, within three years, from opposing abortion to fully supporting Roe v. Wade. Mr. Clinton is not sure when, but sometime before birth, a fetus becomes a baby. Mr. Clinton believes "personhood" is attained when the spirit enters the body. Using Mr. Clinton's logic, we can conclude that becoming a baby and attaining personhood are one and the some thing. The obvious question is, How does Mr. Clinton know when a fetus is extracted or when a baby is killed? Mr. Clinton does not know and therefore is in violation of his own standard, and remember Mr. Clinton claims to be a Christian who believes the Bible to be authoritative, and this is the key to the riddle.

Mr. Clinton exposes his lack of adherence to the Divine Standard when he states, "My position has always been that abortion should be safe, legal, and rare" (p.29). Yancey states that, "Clinton defends this shill by saying the approach to specific moral issues in a democracy should change as popular opinion changes" (p.29). One wonders how Mr. Clinton can square this position with the Biblical mandate to be holy even as I am Holy when the God of the Bible does not change.

Rejoice in Your Youth (II)

by Rev. C. Hanko

Ecclesiastes 11:9: "Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment."

In a previous article we discussed the negative aspect, the warning implied in this Word of God, now we consider the positive aspect, the encouragement.

You are told: Rejoice, O young man, O young woman, in your youth. This is the time for exuberant joy, for thankfulness, for singing the praises of your God! Do it now, this special time soon passes by, you have the future before you!

You are reaching out toward maturity. The things that you learned by rote when you were a child now begin to take on real meaning. God has given you a strong, healthy body, full of vim and vigor. He has given you a sound mind to search out the amazing wonders of His creation. Wherever you turn you discover something new, either in the field of history, or geography, or science, or literature, or mathematics, or mechanics. You stand amazed at something new every day.

But the greatest wonder of all is that you know God as your God and Father, and Jesus as your Savior. You realize that you were born in God's covenant, of Christian parents, reared in a home where Christ is Lord.

You are aware that you were conceived and born in sin, no different from the pagan in the jungles of Africa, or the child reared in the slums of New York, or any other child born and reared in a godless home. It was your special privilege to have your education and training in a Christian school and the church where the truth of God's Word is preached and taught. Along with all that, you know that you are not your own, but belong to your faithful Savior Jesus Christ. You confess along with your fellow believers: "All that I have belongs, not to me, but to my God."

This is God's world that we live in, His wonderful creation. You see the firmament as His handiwork, and hear all creation singing His praises. Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night shows wisdom.

You yourself are God's handiwork, that is, custom made, as it were. There is only one of you, for God gave you your body, your mind, your soul and your strength, that you may take your place in God's church, and serve your unique purpose according to the gifts and talents God has given you.

You have the Spirit and life of Christ in your heart, whereby you hold the highest position any-

one can hold in this world, far above rulers and princes. You hold the office of believers as God's prophet, priest and king, to know, love, and serve Him in love. You are a steward in God's Temple, entrusted with all these means to serve Him in your daily walk of life, living to His glory!

Prayerfully you take your place in the church as an active believer by making confession of your faith, you choose your vocation and your future life mate, confident that God will direct your way from day to day.

We must seek to carry out God's will, to be content in His way, and to seek His glory at home, at school, or whereever we are, in order to be a good infulence to others and seek their welfare.

All this, Scripture tells you, means that you possess an inner joy, which is unspeakable, even the beginning of the eternal blessedness. It is a beginning, not in the sense of the beginning of a long trip, but rather the kernel out of which grows our eternal joy in heaven. Just as a beautiful flower emerges from a small seed, or a mighty oak grows from a mere acorn, so also our eternal joy follows out of our foretaste in this present life.

Exactly for that reason the Word of God urges you to rejoice in your youth by making the brightness of your inner joy radiate upon your face and over your whole person.

You do that, first of all, by "walking in the ways of your heart". Remember that this is your regenerated heart, from which are all the issues of life. This requires a constant watchfulness against the sin that so readily corrupts our thoughts, words, actions or deeds. Our prayer must be: "Guard Thou my thoughts, I Thee implore, and of my lips keep Thou the door; nor leave my sinful heart to stray where evil footsteps lead the way." And when we do sin we must sincerely seek forgiveness through the cross of our Savior.

This also includes that the love of God and the love of the neighbor impel us moment by moment. We must seek to carry out God's will, to be content in His way, and to seek His glory at home, at school, or wherever we are, in order to be a good influence to others and seek their welfare.

God also urges us "to walk in the sight of our eyes". The book of Proverbs says: "Let thine eyes look right on." Elsewhere proverbs warns against an eye that seeks riches or that turns to a strange woman. The sanctified heart must control our eye, lest it be drawn or wander toward sin. We must be ready at all times to turn our eye from evil.

On the other hand, our eye must be fixed upon God and His Christ, seeking all our expectation from above. The eye is given us to search the Scriptures, which are able to make us wise unto salvation. It is a most essential instrument in serving our God and living to His glory as His friend-servants.

My son and daughter, this is "the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man". We can sum it all up in the words of the apostle Paul: "Rejoice in the Lord!"

Our incentive is, that "for all these things God will bring thee into judgment." This life is not an end in itself, but is a preparation for future glory.

God's promise is that He "will render to every man according to his deeds; to them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life." (Rom. 2:6,7).

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in the body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or evil." Christ will be our Judge. He regards us, not as we are in ourselves, but as His redeemed and sanctified saints. Your and my works are burned like straw and stubble, but His work in and through us receives an eternal reward of heavenly life and blessedness.

Our reward is the reward of grace: "Well done, ye good and faithful servants. Come, ye blessed, and inherit the kingdom!" Rejoice, young man and young woman, in your youth!

"Rejoice in the Lord; again I say, rejoice!

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Prayer of the Devout Family

by Elizabeth Hilton Buys

There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band, a devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway. (Acts 10:1 & 2)

The apostle Luke here describes for us the devout man and the devout family. Notice that it is his house, Cornelius included, that feared God, gave alms, and prayed to God alway. There is a close connection between fear of the Lord and prayer. 'Fear of the Lord' is an Old Testament expression of reverential trust - the very attitude that we must have in our hearts as we pray. In Psalm 34 David prays, 'O fear the Lord, ye His saints: for there is no want to them that fear Him.'

I would like to briefly discuss two aspects of family prayer: preparation and contents.

First, PREPARATION: In I The. 5:17 Paul adjures us to pray without ceasing. A very simple command, and one that I am afraid we don't take seriously enough. Anna, who so rejoiced to have lived long enough to see her Savior had lived in the temple for eighty-four years, never leaving, but worshiping night and day with fasting and prayer. Of course, that lifestyle is not practical anymore. So, did Paul mean that we should just pray as often as we can? Absolutely not! Prayer should become an inward constant. I'll never forget the first time I was introduced to that concept. I was riding to school with my teacher, chattering as most first graders do. After a while, my teacher asked me to please quiet down as she was trying to pray. We were driving through Grand Rapids on our way to Adams Street in busy traffic, so I had to wonder aloud how she could be praying if she was watching the road with her eyes open! Mrs. Hoeksema answered with the same admonition as Christ, 'men ought always to pray.'

G. Campbell Morgan in his book The Practice of Prayer teaches: 'Preparation for prayer is secured by response in the life to the great facts which make prayer possible.' In other words he is saying that preparation for prayer is living your life in a way that is harmonious with the truths that you and your church profess. If you read Romans 8:22-28, you can see the truth of this and the great benefits that come from such a life.

So how must a family prepare for prayer? They must live their life in a way pleasing to God. Thus they will be presented with infinite opportunities for prayer.

Which brings me to CONTENT: I would like to borrow from Dr. Howard Lindsell's book When You Pray as I discuss what the contents of a family's prayer should be. He lists five main components of prayer. I like this simplicity in connection with such a vast subject. The first is *adoration.* My parents taught me that I should reserve the word 'adore' for when I was talking about God. You don't adore puppies, you don't adore ice cream. There should only be one object of adoration: God. That is the purpose for which we were created. Even the heavens declare the glory of God, and as families we should remember to do this in good times and in bad. Practicing this together will be a wonderful blessing.

The second component is *thanksgiving.* Jesus always thanked God for hearing His prayers, and His is always the perfect example. What must families give thanksgiving for? That is something that each of you should enjoy answering. A good idea would be for each member of the family to make a list. No one is too young or too old to thank their Creator for His many good gifts.

The third component is *confession.* Confession of sin. The model of true confession is the publican who 'standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heavens, but smote upon his breast, saying. 'God be merciful to me a sin-

ner.' Luke promises that if we pray like that we 'shall be exalted.' Although we confess to God, not to man, to quote a less exalted source, 'confession is good for the soul', and doing some of our confession with the family - especially of sins that affect the whole family - can be rewarding. it is never too late to confess: look at the thief on the cross next to Jesus. He exhibited the contrite, humble spirit which pleases God when the cried, 'Dost thou not fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss.' He confessed, asked God to hear him, and heard the only words that he could wish to hear: 'today thou shalt be with Me in paradise.'

The fourth component is *intercession.* Intercessory prayer is expression of one's love for family members. For example there is the passage in Numbers where Moses prays for God to heal his sister Miriam of leprosy. Or the touching passage in Genesis 17, where Abraham pleads to God, 'Oh that Ishmael might live before thee!', and is answered, 'I have heard thee.' This is the responsibility of the entire family, but especially of parents, and it is their reward to hear the words 'I have heard thee.' The Syrophoenician woman who pleaded for her demon-possessed daughter was commended by Jesus Himself for her great faith.

The fifth and final component is *petition.* I deliberately put it last to make a point. I am afraid that all too often our prayers are 99 % petition and 1% adoration, thankfulness, confession, and intercession. But I want to be careful not to take away from the beauty that we have the right to ask God to help in our daily lives. Try to make your prayers 20% petition, 20% adoration, etc. What a privilege petition is! Listen to the prayer of Manoah, Samson's father, 'O my Lord, let the man of God which thou didst send come again unto us, and teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born.' In other words, 'teach us how to bring up this boy which is to be born.' Hannah begged in anguish for a son, and was given Samuel, Abraham begged for an heir and was given the covenant promise in return. We too can petition for the smallest need and the Father who knows how many hairs are on our heads will answer fittingly.

. . . He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius. And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it Lord? And He said unto him, thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God. (Acts 10:3 & 4)

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Perseverance: Patti's Problem

by Cal Kalsbeek

"Here I go again. Looks like another Monday night with no sleep. Why is this happening to me? If I could just get out of going to catechism, I'm sure everything would be alright.

"Everything was going just fine earlier in the year. It almost seemed too good to be true. Being totally depraved by nature doesn't sound all that great, but that after all seems quite far removed from me personally. Not only that, that I am elect from eternity, and that Jesus died for me and the Spirit works grace in me irresistibly pretty much takes care of that depravity anyway.

"It seemed there was nothing to worry about until we got to discussing the perseverance of the saints. Ever since then I've spent my Monday nights counting sheep. Why can't I handle this the way Lorna at the grill does? What was it she said again? 'To me perseverance of the saints sounds like a laudable characteristic of a New Orleans football team.' Yes that was it! She always was quick witted. I just wish I could be more like her . . . not a care in the world.

"Here it's already 12:36 and I'm still wide awake. I guess it won't hurt to think through what Reverend Boring taught us from the Canons about the Perseverance of the Saints these past six weeks. I can't sleep anyway.

"What is a saint?" That's what he asked. I remember it like it was yesterday, and I can still feel his eyes boring right through me when he asked it. (I can't help but think he has a fitting name.) If a saint is one who mortifies the flesh by prayer, and who practices holy exercises of piety and presses more and more toward the goal of perfection like he said, there's no way I can be one! My prayers don't seem to get off the ground, and as far as exercises of piety are concerned they're nonexistent.

"One of two things must be true: either I'm not a child of God or, as we discussed a few weeks back, my life of sin has caused me to lose the sense of God's favor. How can I know for sure? We talked about melancholy falls and how God does not withdraw His Spirit from His people even in these, but it sometimes seems like I'm headed for hell. How else can my attraction to movies and the beat of rock music be explained?

"Now what time is it? Already 1:04. I'll never get to sleep, and I'm so tired! Oh! what was it we memorized last week? '. . . in these falls He preserves in them the incorruptible seed of regeneration from perishing, or being totally lost; and again, by His Word and Spirit, certainly and effectually renews them to repentance, to a sincere and godly sorrow for their sins, that they may seek and obtain remission in the blood of the Mediator, may again experience the favor of a reconciled God, through faith adore His mercies, and henceforward more diligently work out their own salvation with fear and trembling (Canons 5th Head, Art. 7, C.K.)

"No, it can't be, can it, that I <u>have</u> that seed of regeneration, and that the Spirit is right now working in me that sorrow for sin? But why else would I be concerned about these things? What we memorized for class tonight is beginning to make sense now. . . . believers in this life have to struggle with various carnal doubts, and that under grievous temptations they are not always sensible of this full assurance of faith and certainty of preserving (Canons, 5th Head, Art. 11, C.K.) That certainly fits me! No wonder I've been losing sleep. So long as I give myself over to sin, God will not allow me to experience the assurance of faith.

"Strange, I'm not tired anymore. Everything seems to be falling into place now. Some of Rev. Boring's conclusions to his recent series of sermons on the five points of Calvinism seem to pull everything together. How did that go again? Oh yes, I remember now. He said, 'By sovereign predestination the believer is predestined unto perseverance as the way of his salvation. Limited atonement is the <u>guarantee</u> of this perseverance.And the preservation of the saints is the <u>cause</u> of the perseverance of the saints.'

"Lord I believe, help Thou my unbe. . . . . z z z z z z z z z z"

Calvin Kalsbeek is an elder at Hope Prot. Ref. Church. He teaches at Covenant Christian High School.

Watching Daily At My Gates

by Skip Hunter

June 1 — **Acts 4:31-37** John and Peter had just been freed by the elders and priests in Jerusalem. They had gone back to the church and reported God's goodness to them. After a prayer of thanksgiving and request for the boldness to speak Christ's name, they received a striking answer of an earthquake and the Holy Ghost. They then began to live out of their faith. What about us? Do we live by faith? Do we love the brother and care for his needs? Are we Barnabases and are we willing to help all the kingdom causes in whatever ways God has blessed us? Sing or read Psalter 203.

June 2 — **Acts 5:1-11** Into yesterday's beautiful scene Satan reared his ugly head. He did this by using the sin of pride. Ananias and Sapphira not having the love of Christ in their hearts desired the praise of men. This is a sin common to us all. We live in the generation of "me first". We like to see our names in print for what we have done. Sometimes we go so far as to take credit away from our God. Ananias and Sapphira's deaths served as a great warning to the church in Jerusalem, and they should warn us as well to walk only in God's ways and not our own. Sing or read Psalter 104 especially stanzas 1-3, 7, 8, & 10.

June 3 — **Acts 5:12-24** Words of this life! What life? Is it the life of this world which is full of sin and rebellion? Is it the life that causes people to wait for the weekend so that they can carry out their plans of sin? No, the life of verse 20 is the life that Christ gives of Himself. It is eternal life obtained by grace through faith. It is the life that sustains us during our sojourn on this wicked world. This life helps us to choose the good and abhor the evil. This is the promise of the new Jerusalem where we will enjoy life in heaven with all the saints singing praises unto our Redeemer, the Lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the world! Do you look for this life? Sing or read Psalter 32.

June 4 — **Acts 5:25-33** Young people, can you take the words of verse 29 on your lips and live those words? Do you want to obey God and not man? That's what Peter did at the possible cost of his life. Sometimes we receive a "little" ridicule because we choose the paths of Jehovah over the fun of this world. I write "little" because in comparison to what Peter was going through our griefs are very small. Choosing the ways of God means that we will obey all of His laws in all aspects of our lives. Young and old alike must make these conscious choices every day of our lives. Choosing anything but God's ways are to choose the path of Satan. Where do you like to walk? Sing or read Psalter 232.

June 5 — **Acts 5:34-42** Verse 41 recounts the apostles' reaction to being beaten and whipped by the council. They rejoiced that they could suffer shame for the name of God. This is a whole lot different than the pride exhibited in the first part of this chapter. There are two examples for us to follow in this chapter. We must pick one or the other. If we pick the first, the end is destruction in the everlasting fires of hell. If we choose the second, we will experience the blessings of God both in this life and the life to come. "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve." Sing or read Psalter 210.

June 6 — **Psalm 68:1-6** Our God is the God of those who appear down-trodden in this life. Is that you? Are you seemingly out of it? Why is that? If it is the path that God has chosen for you, then rejoice and sing unto Him who is in heaven. You can do that because according to verse 5 even though you may not have a father, mother, wife, or husband on this earth, you do have a protector. That protector is Jehovah Whose name is far above all other names. What a comfort this is. This comfort is far above anything we can find on this earth and in this life. Thanks be to God! Sing or read Psalter 347.

June 7 — **Psalm 68:7-16** Do you live on the hill of God? Do you dwell there in complete confidence that God will provide all of your needs? Are you able to rely completely on the God who protected the whole nation of Israel on its journey from Egypt to Canaan? This is the beauty of the church. By way of faithful

church attendance and participation, we receive the assurance of our salvation and place in glory. God has given us this place of refuge from the evils of the world. Flee to that church, rejoice in its beauty, and love that church. Sing or read Psalter 133.

June 8 — **Psalm 68:17-20** The Psalmist extols the greatness of God throughout this Psalm. In verse 19 he proclaims God to be blessed. That should be our confession as well. We must constantly see in God all things which are worthy of our praise. We do not do this of ourselves but we do this because He makes us able to say, "Blessed be the Lord." We must always confess that He daily gives us benefits. As we come to the end of each day; we must look back and say, "What great things has God given me today! What a great God I have! Blessed be Jehovah's name from this time forth and forever more!" Sing or read Psalter 197.

June 9 — **Psalm 68:21-28** There are times when we feel that confessing God's name before men has no benefits. We feel that we are wasting our time. This verses tell us different. The world notices a person who confesses God's name and that confession. Sometimes they persecute such a person, and the day is coming when they may kill such a person, but they do notice. If we think we stand on our own merits, we will fall. If we pray the words of verse 28, then we will stand now, and then stand before our glorious God in heaven. All strength is from Him who strengthens the feeblest of hands. Sing or read Psalter 181.

June 10 — **Psalm 68:29-35** Are you a singing people? Do you love to sing forth the praises of Him who rides in the heavens? Do you lift up your voice in song to Him whose strength is in the clouds? If you do not like to sing, why not? Do you think your voice isn't good enough? Doesn't Christ have the power to take our poorly sung songs and make them acceptable to God? Do you think the songs of Zion aren't fun to sing? Maybe we better reexamine our motives for singing. Singing is one of the ways we thank God for our salvation? Are we thankful? If we are, we should sing. We will be singing in heaven, and we must sing on this earth. Sing or read Psalter 269.

June 11 — **Revelation 2:1-7** People of God, have you lost your first love? For some of us that first love was exhibited as we listened with rapt interest to the Bible stories told by our parents or kindergarten teachers. For others the love was hearing the Reformed faith preached for the first time. Have we lost that love? The church of Ephesus had, and had to be rebuked for that sin. Do we need to rededicate ourselves to the love of God and His truths? Do we need to go back to our love for the Scriptures? Do we have other loves that get in the way of our love for God and His word? We must hear the word of the Holy Spirit and return to our first love. Sing or read Psalter 34 especially stanzas 1, 2, and 10.

June 12 — **Revelation 2:8-11** People of God, do you long to be like the church at Smyrna? This church seemingly had all sorts of troubles. They were very poor, they had to fight troubles from those who said they, too, were people of God, and they had other kinds of persecution to fear. Do you long for those situations in life? Smyrna also had the testimony in being rich in the Word of God. This is one of the churches who was not rebuked by the Spirit. This church is a model for us to follow even as we head into the days of Antichrist. Let us be faithful and prepare for the day when we will be given the crown of life. Sing or read Psalter 35 especially stanzas 1, and 3-5.

June 13 — **Revelation 2:12-17** People of God, do you hold fast the most glorious name of Jehovah even when you are being ridiculed? Have you denied the faith when tempted with an evil of this world? The church at Pergamos had held fast the faith even when at least one of their numbers was put to death for the faith. As we mingle with the world in this week, are we willing to proclaim His name in front of any with whom we come into contact? There is a battle to fight, but we do not fight it by concealing the name of the captain of our salvation. Sing or read Psalter 352.

June 14 — **Revelation 2:18-29** People of God, do you live according to the belief of the truth presented in verse 23? Do you believe that God knows all that is in our minds and hearts? Do you believe that in the day of judgment that we will be held accountable for of our actions in this life? If you believe this truth, do you live out of this truth? This is quite an awesome thing! Not only does God know that we think, do, or speak, but He will also ask us about them when we appear before the judgment seat of Christ! The members in the church at Thyatira had to be reminded of this truth and we do as well. Let us listen to what the Spirit says to the church of all ages in this matter. Sing or read Psalter 383.

June 15 — **Revelation 3:1-6** People of God, are you Christian in more than bearing the name? That was the sin of the church at Sardis. They had the name but they did not live out of that name. It does us no good to say we are people of God if we do not show by our lives that we are people of God. We need to remember all that we have been taught and use all that we have been taught in our lives. We must be Chris-

tian, that is those who are anointed out of all the people of the world, in every aspect of our lives. Let us watch and live lives of those worthy of the white robes given to the righteous. Sing or read Psalter 356.

June 16 **Revelation 3:7-13** People of God, are you zealous to spread the gospel to the four corners of this world. Are we like the church at Philadelphia looking for open doors to proclaim the word of God? This church like that at Smyrna found no rebuke in their message from Christ. They had been faithful with the work placed before them. They were good stewards of the truths found in God's word and were carrying out the mandate to "Go into all the world and preach the gospel." It was not easy for them, but they were doing it 10in the strength of the name of the Most High. This is our calling; are we doing it? Do we wish to be pillars in the living temple of God? Sing or read Psalter 264 especially stanzas 1-4.

June 17 **Revelation 3:14-22** People of God, do you like it when God chastens you? We should; you know. God only chastens those whom he loves. He desires them to walk in His ways and so at times He takes the shepherd's rod and staff and brings us back into the ways of righteousness. Sometimes His chastening seems grievous, but we must realize it is for our profit. The church at Laodicea was chafing under the chastening of God. In fact the church hated it so much that it was in danger of losing its candlestick. What a horrible thing! Listen, people of God, for His message in all your life and watch until the day of his coming. Sing or read Psalter 329.

June 18 **Deuteronomy 18:1-8** In the Old Testament times priests and Levites were separated for the work of ministry. They each had various duties to carry out for the worship of Jehovah. God set them apart and did not allow them to have any land to work for their daily bread. They were to be supported through the offerings brought to the tabernacle or temple. We have the same opportunity to support the preaching of the name of the Lord our God. Do we take advantage of the opportunity? Are we truly a giving people - supporting the cause of preaching the gospel to the nations? Our duty extends beyond supporting the local pastor. We must also support the training of such men as well as missionaries that take the word to the four corners of the world. Sing or read Psalter 183.

June 19 **Deuteronomy 18:9-14** We live in the land which Jehovah has given us. This land like Canaan has the abominations of the nations found in it. All around us are the gods of the people whose king is Satan. Do we follow these gods? Do we listen to the music Satan has given his people? Do we allow our children to walk in the fire of Satan? God commands us that we not walk in the ways of the world. Our young men and fathers must not do the things and want the things that the world's young men and fathers do and want. Our young women and mothers must not do the things and want the things that the world's young women and mothers do and want. Our God commands that we be perfect as we walk in His ways. Sing or read Psalter 308.

June 20 **Deuteronomy 18:15-22** The Prophet of verse 15 has come to this world. We are required to listen to the words of Christ and are responsible when we do not follow them. One of those words is that He is coming again! The Prophet will return to this world and will require of us an accounting for all that we have done or said. How will we know that it is He? We will know even as the signs of the times come to pass as He has told us in Matthew 24 and throughout the book of Revelation. His words are "true and righteousness altogether" as confessed in Psalm 19. Watch young people and live lives that show that you are watching for the return of the Prophet. Sing or read Psalter 162.

June 21 **I Corinthians 2:1-5** Two days ago, the Lord willing, you sat under the preaching of the word of God. What did you hear? Was it the pure preaching that proclaims Jesus Christ crucified for the sins of His people? Here Paul declares that the preaching of the Word, even though it may not be with the eloquence of a silver-tongued orator, must contain that element. Were you moved by that message, and did it give you hope as you live in this wicked world? Preaching is important to the child of God as it is that message that proclaims Christ to us as no other means can. We believe that the preaching is the means of grace for the believer, and the Bible proclaims that by preaching is the means for our salvation. Hold the preaching dear, people of God, and seek the pure preaching of the Word. Sing or read Psalter 348.

June 22 **I Corinthians 2:6-10** Do you know what a blessing the Holy Spirit is for us? Our God's ways are incomprehensible and past finding out. Yet by the Holy Spirit Who searches and knows the deep things of God's counsel we know the way to our salvation. We may not understand how God Who is perfect can love such wretched sinners as we are. But we can understand that He sent His only begotten Son to die for us. And by faith we can believe that truth and live in the way of the wisdom of God as well as putting aside the wisdom of this world. Thank God for the work of the Spirit, and thank God for His wisdom. Sing or read Psalter 287.

June 23 **I Corinthians 2:11-16** Do you use your "mind of Christ"? Every child of God has that mind. Do we use it as we go about our daily work? When we speak, do we use the words of Christ or the words of the world? When we sing, whose songs do we sing, those of Satan or those of Christ? When we make decisions concerning our life, upon what standard or philosophy do we base those decisions? God has freely made us spiritual men; do we live as spiritual men, or do we live as natural man governed by his father Satan? Sing or read Psalter 70.

June 24 **Proverbs 11:1-6** Do you value your righteousness, young people? No, not the righteousness that you have gained yourselves, We are not righteous except for the gift that God has given us. Your righteousness must show in your daily lives. As you work this summer, are you giving your employer a just day's work? Are you showing your righteousness by the entertainment that you choose whether it be during the day or during the night? Living in the righteousness that we have been graciously given will preserve us in whatever place we find ourselves. Thank God for such a gift and live out of that gift. Sing or read Psalter 187.

June 25 **Proverbs 11:7-11** Some of us may have had to attend the funeral of a loved one in the past months, or we may have to attend a funeral in the near future. For the child of God there is great hope in death. A hope that the wicked cannot understand now and will not achieve in the future. We have the hope and confidence of eternal life. Is that your hope, young people? Do you view death as the passageway to eternal life, an escape from this vale of sorrows? The wicked's end of Hell is sure; but so is the believer's hope of heaven. Sing or read Psalter 136.

June 26 **Proverbs 11:12-16** Paul in Ephesians 4:15 sums up Proverbs 11:13. Do you speak the truth in love, people of God? The phrase "in love" is very important here. We can speak the truth about someone without loving that person. We are quick to defend ourselves when we gossip by saying that what we said was the truth about a person or his deeds. But yet we do not follow the exposition of the ninth commandment about promoting the honor of our neighbor. We quite often know things that are best kept to ourselves. We must do that if we truly love God and our neighbor. Sing or read Psalter 104 especially stanzas 1, 6, and 9.

June 27 **Proverbs 11:17-21** Do you sow righteousness in your daily life? As you go through each day, do you seek the opportunity to sow righteousness? Young people, as you seek fellowship and entertainment, what kinds of seeds are you sowing? The wild oats of evil are never blessed by God in this life or in the life to come. As you work are you sowing righteousness in your relationships with your employer or fellow workers? There is a great reward in the sowing of righteousness. That reward is contentment now and life eternal in the future. These rewards are not possible consequences in sowing righteousness but rather they are sure because they are the rewards promised by God. Sing or read Psalter 99 especially stanzas 2-5.

June 28 **Proverbs 11:22-26** Do you care for the poor, people of God? These verses have much to say about our responsibility to help those less blessed than ourselves. First of all we see that we do it because God says that it is good. Next we care for the poor because we see that God will bless our care of the poor. Finally we see that there are great spiritual benefits when we make the care of the poor our business. Jesus Himself told us that we have the poor among us always. He also told us that when we help the least of the brethren, we are helping Christ. We have the incentive and the model; let us seek out the poor and display the mercies of Christ to them. Sing or read Psalter 113 especially stanzas 1, 2, 11, and 12.

June 29 **Proverbs 11:27-31** Are you a soul winner? Sometimes we think this odd terminology for a Reformed Christian. But yet Solomon by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit calls us to win souls. This soul winning is not the idea that we on our own make men Christians. It is not our works or efforts that persuades a man to walk in the way of Christ. To believe that would go against the testimony of Scripture. But rather our daily lives must be examples so that those around us will know of the hope of our calling. Our lives of righteousness may very well be the means God uses to draw others to Him. Sing or read Psalter 172.

June 30 **Psalm 1** As we consider God's creation in the summer time we cannot help but be struck by trees. Wherever there is a little water, some sort of tree grows. Sometimes they are the majestic oaks or redwoods. Sometimes the humble Chinese elm or olive trees make their home by a water source. All trees have some things in common. Their roots seek out water so that they can produce fruit. Trees have another thing in common. God gives them to us as a picture of the righteous man. The righteous man is placed by the water of life. His roots must seek it out. Consider the trees this summer, but also consider your calling to be like the tree and bring forth fruit. Sing or read Psalter 2.

Scholasticism

by Prof. Herman Hanko

One of the most beautiful discourses of our Lord's ministry was His discourse to His disciples in the upper room where together they celebrated the last supper. In that lengthy conversation, the Lord talked especially about The Spirit of Truth Whom He would give to His Church to lead the church into all truth (See John 14:16-18, 26; 15:26;' 16:7-11, 13, 14). That Spirit was poured out on Pentecost; and, by His work, the church of Christ has developed in the truth of God's Word until the present.

However true that may be, a long period of the church's history saw little such development. It was the period which we call The Middle Ages, roughly from the death of Augustine in the middle of the 5th century to the time of the Reformation at the beginning of the 16th century — over a millennium! How strange.

Why did almost no development of the truth take place during that period? Roman Catholicism had control of the church, and whatever development did take place was in the direction of the lie and further apostasy.

There are two reasons for this apostasy of the Middle Ages.

One is the fact that the Bishop of Rome (the pope) had so gained domination in the church that all the church's life was subject to him and all the church's theology was directed by him and had to be approved by him.

Secondly, very soon after the death of Augustine, the church committed itself to a doctrine of salvation by works. Augustine had taught salvation by sovereign grace alone. This doctrine of Augustine the church did not want. It repudiated it explicitly, persecuted those who taught it (consider Gottschalk who rotted in prison because he taught sovereign election and reprobation) and insisted on a doctrine of salvation by the meritorious value of good works.

One element in Roman Catholic domination of the church was Scholasticism.

The name really does not have much to do with what Scholasticism was in later centuries. The name came from the cloister schools of Charlemagne. Charlemagne, the greatest king of an empire that included what is now France, Germany, and the Lowlands, ruled in the latter part of the 8th century and the first part of the 9th. Although himself illiterate, he wanted the barbarian members of his vast kingdom to be educated. He established schools — good schools — throughout his empire and even fashioned an excellent curriculum to be used. These schools were closely connected to the church and were, therefore, called cloister schools.

But ancient Greek philosophy came into Europe via the Moslems in Spain, the crusaders of the 11th and 12th centuries, and the growing trade between East and West. The Roman Catholic church has always prided itself in being willing to adapt to any culture, any way of life, any view — as long as the essentials of Roman Catholic doctrine are kept intact.

Scholasticism is the effort on the part of Roman Catholic scholars in the Middle Ages to merge into one system of thought the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church and the basic teachings of pagan philosophers, particularly Plato and Aristotle.

One may very well ask the question: How was it possible for the Roman Catholic Church to incorporate pagan philosophy into the Christian religion?

The answer to this question is simply that already in those days the Church taught that much good could come out of paganism. Because of the work of the Spirit in heathen, these heathen were also capable of discovering truth. This truth had to be gleaned from their writings which were filled with so many other errors. But it was truth which the church could profitably use not only, but truth which could be incorporated into the theology of Scripture.

It was truth which man could know through the use of reason. Faith was necessary to know many truths, but man's natural reason could also discover truth. The medieval theologians were intent on unifying the fruits of reason with the activity of faith. In this way a theology would be constructed which would be a synthesis of both.

It was a view which is very similar to the view of common grace, and was, in fact, the fore-runner of common grace. Common grace also teaches that, because God gives grace to all men, even unsaved pagans are capable of discovering truth, truth which is of great value to believers and which they ought not to be afraid to incorporate into their theology.

If you would like a formal definition from a great scholar of The Middle Ages, we can quote Ueberweg:

> Scholasticism is philosophy in the service of established and accepted theological doctrines, or at least, in such subordination to them, that, where philosophy and theology trod on common ground, the latter was received as the absolute norm and criterion of truth. More particularly, Scholasticism was the reproduction of ancient philosophy under the control of ecclesiastical doctrine, with an accommodation, in cases of discrepancy between them of the former to the latter.

It is understandable that an effort to merge into one system Biblical doctrine and pagan philosophy is going to end in some strange places. And so it did. It was a rejection of the principle of *Sola Scriptura* which the Reformers insisted upon. In fact, Luther's absolute insistence of the authority of Scripture alone was, in part at least, leveled against the Scholastics who employed "reason" as well as faith in theological pursuits — reason which Luther called "the whore of Satan."

Scholasticism at its worst could produce volumes of heavy works and endless debates over such questions as: "How many angels can dance the point of a pin?" "Given God's omnipotence, can God create two mountains without a valley between?"

A few notable contributions were, however, made to the development of the truth by "better" scholastics. Anselm, 11th century archbishop of Canterbury, wrote a famous book called Cur Deus Homo? ("Why Did God Become Man?") in which he developed a doctrine of the atonement which is followed in our own Heidelberg Catechism in Lord's Days 5 & 6.

Thomas Aquinas, perhaps the greatest of all the Scholastics, developed Roman Catholic theology which determined the theological direction of the Roman Catholic Church till today.

Scholasticism was another proof that the church of our Lord Jesus Christ could only be saved by way of Reformation!

Prof. Hanko is professor of Church History and New Testament in the Protestant Reformed Seminary.

Congratulations to
David J. Moore
of Bethel
Prot. Rev. Church, Elk Grove Village, IL
and
Kimberly J. Medema
of Peace Prot. Ref. Church,
Lansing , IL
who will be married, D.V..
on July 22nd, 1994.
Dave's parents: Rev. and Mrs. Moore
(Hull, IA)
Kim's parents: Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Medema
(Lynwood, IL)

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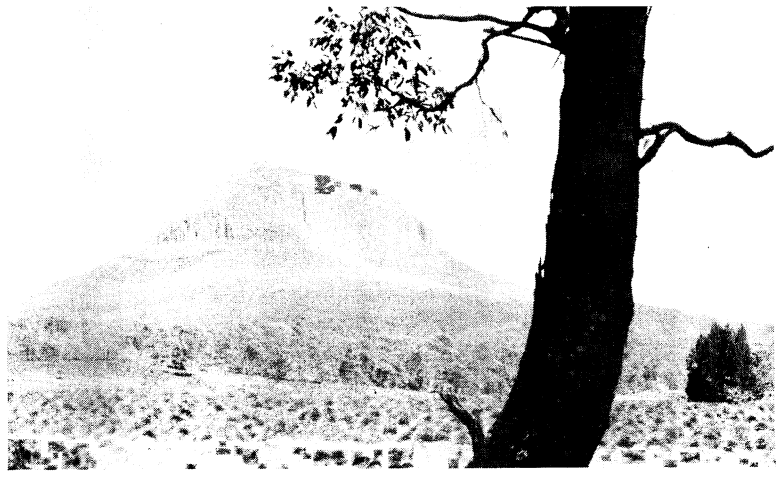
The Church in Tasmania



Valentines Peak, Tasmania

by Rodney Kleyn

The Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Australia is a small denomination consisting of six congregations in three of the eastern states of our country. Three are in Tasmania where the denomination originated from and three are in mainland Australia. One of these is in Sydney, the capital of New South Wales, and two in Queensland the most northern state. One of these is in Rockhampton and one in Brisbane. These three congregations all have full time ministers occupying their pulpits.

In the three Tasmanian congregations there is one minister in Winnaleah and the Launceston and Burnie congregations are vacant. There are about a hundred miles separating each of these congregations with Launceston being in the middle. The Winnaleah congregation in the northeast of the state consists of about six or seven families with a few young growing families in their membership. The Launceston congregation which is in the central north of the State is the largest of the three in Tasmania and has around fifteen families in it. It is always good to be in this congregation because there are so many young families here and we can see that God is here blessing the church in the line of the covenant and that one day there will be a heap of youth here in our church. There is also in Launceston a church school which has a full time teacher who teaches around fifteen students from ages six to thirteen.

The Burnie congregation has a total membership of twenty seven; this consists of two elderly couples, a single lady, a family of five, two families of three and a family of eleven of which I am a member. We, having no minister, usually have sermons from the PRC recorded either on video from the Hudsonville congregation or on audio from one of the other congregations. We also have a minister from one of the other congregations visit us every two or three months. Our worship service is conducted in much the same way as that of the PRC with the preaching of the word being the main part of the service. In our churches though we do not use the Psalter used by the PRC but sing from the Scottish Psalms which is a versification of the 150 Psalms verse for verse from beginning to end.

Our normal church attendance in Burnie is around 15 to 20 people, as quite often it is hard for older people to make it and also it is hard for people to come faithfully when there is no live preaching from the pulpit. We also have a midweek Bible study where we study through a book of the Bible, usually following a study guide from a PRC minister, e.g. Prof. Hoeksema's Studies in Acts. Our Youth consists of 7 people aged from 14 to 21, 5 of whom are from our family; so the people of our age who we mix with in our church are mainly in our family. Having recently been for a vacation in the USA with my brother and sister we could mix with a lot of people our own age. This is the area of Church life which is so contrasting and we were very glad that we could fellowship with people of our own age and make a lot of friends in the PRC. You also have a great number of church activities which you can participate in and a plentiful supply of speeches and lectures you can attend. I hope that none of you and your friends take any of these things for granted, but that you show your gratitude to God and one another for the gift of the preaching of His word and the fellowship of His saints.

Tasmania is a lovely Island about 350 miles across the top and is in the shape of a heart. It is a mountainous island with a lot of natural rainforest and waterfalls. The weather is also different as we do not have the extremes that you experience in parts of the USA. In our winter we have no snow along the coast but only in the mountains; at night the temperature can get down into the 30's and warmer days up to the 50's. In summer the temperature gets up to 70-80 degrees in the day and we have no humidity. The pace of life is also slower and everyone seems in general to be much more easy going and friendly. Tasmania is a great place for a vacation so if anyone is planning one, young and old alike are most welcome to come and visit us here and can be assured of finding warmth and friendship here.

Our church is small and this can sometimes be hard. We constantly face a struggle for zeal. Being so small makes it hard for everyone individually and as a group to stand fast in the Lord. If we lose one member

we feel it. Over the past five years we have lost a fair few younger members of our congregation also as they have married and left our congregation. Each time this happens it makes it harder for the rest of the congregation as we seem to be getting smaller and smaller and quite often it is only our family that is there. We are reminded though that wherever two or three are gathered together in His name, there He is in our midst. We are learning as the Psalmist puts it in Psalm 27:14 to 'Wait on the Lord, be of good courage and he shall strengthen thine heart, wait I say upon the Lord.'

Our size and lack of growth also makes it hard for us to get a full time minister. The Lord has in the last five years blessed us with three ministers for short periods of time. Prof. and Mrs. Hoeksema were in 1988-1989 in Burnie for 8 months. Rev. and Mrs. Woudenberg from Kalamazoo were with us in our summer of 1991 for 4 months. Also in January of this year Rev. and Mrs. Miersema from New Zealand PRC were in our midst for 8 weeks. We thank the Lord for these times and these people for their time with us as we really did experience a blessed and fruitful time under the instruction of these ministers.

Our church is in a city of around 20,000 people and is one of a handful of churches in Burnie. Burnie is not a community of churches as are areas of Grand Rapids or South Holland, but is a city separate from God and living in Darkness. Thus we as Christians share with the church across the length of the earth the responsibility to bear testimony to His name. We must do this in the way we walk so that the people we come in contact with at work and in this world may see us and though they may mock yet the Lord knows the way of the Righteous but the way of the ungodly shall perish. Our calling as Christians in this world wherever we are is the same, to stand together in unity for this is blessed, (Psalm 133) and to stand as Psalm 1 puts it, not in the way of sinners and not in the seat of the scornful but to make his law our meditation and to delight therein and then like a tree planted by the water we shall not be moved.

Rodney Kleyn is a member of the Burnie Congregation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Australia.. He works as a diesel mechanic and is the fifth oldest in a family of thirteen children.

Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Australia

Rockhampton: Congregation
Members: 58

Brisbane: Congregation
Members:100

Cairns: Preaching Station
Members: 6

Chincilla: Preaching Station
Members: 4

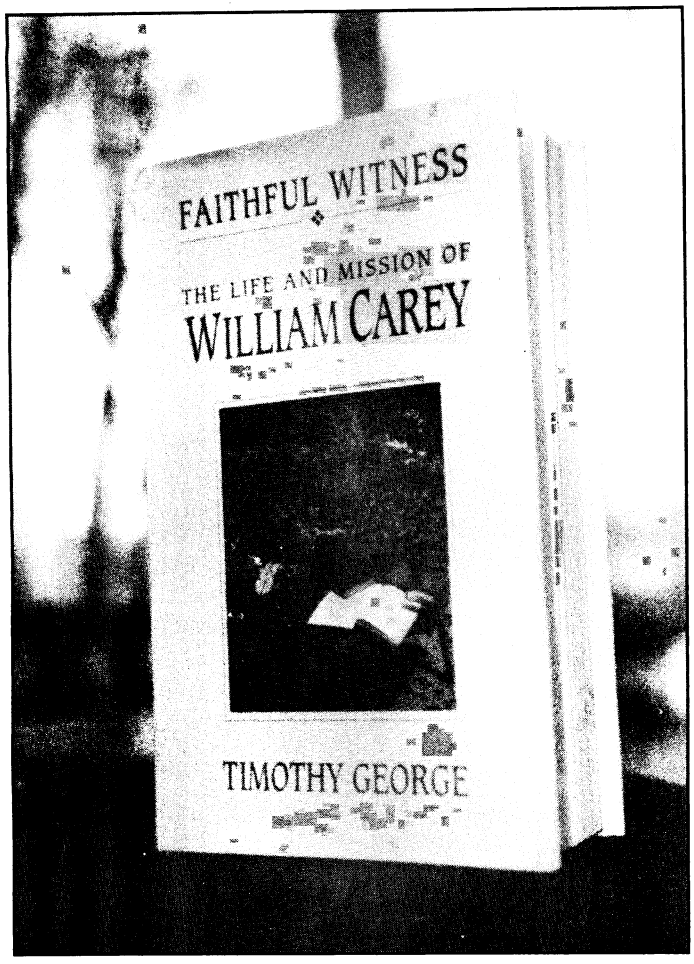
Sydney: Congregation
Members: 22

Cohuna: Preaching Station
Members: 8

Burnie: Congregation
Members: 28

Launceston: Congregation
Members: 46

Winnaleah: Congregation
Members: 34



Faithful Witness

The Life and Mission of William Carrey

Reviewed by

Allen J. Brummel

George, Timothy.
Faithful Witness:
The Life and Mission of William Carey.
Birmingham: New Hope, 1991.
201 pps. $9.95.

Whenever the topic of foreign missions is discussed, the name of William Carey inevitably comes up. Carey was a Baptist preacher who initiated the English mission to India. Timothy George relates the fascinating story of his life and mission in this brief, well written biography.

Carey, an uneducated shoemaker, was brought to the faith by the influence of his fellow apprentice. Immediately, Carey felt responsible to bring this glorious gospel to all of his relatives. "Soon after he was converted Carey began to press the claims of Christ upon others." (8) Carey never viewed evangelism as an option, but rather saw personal witnessing as a necessary requirement of the Christian: "Evangelism was never an optional add-on to the gospel; it was the motivating force of every soul delivered out of darkness into the light of grace." (8)

During the years following his conversion, Carey became interested in the ministry and at the age of 25 he became the pastor of a small Baptist church in Moulton, England.

Carey's zeal for missions never subsided even though he faced many disappointments

and challenges. The most well known challenge came from his colleagues in the ministry. At a meeting of ministers at Northampton, the chairman asked his fellow pastors for a subject to discuss. Carey proposed: "The duty of Christians to attempt the spread of the gospel among heathen nations." (53) The response to Carey's suggestion was harsh. George writes: "Ryland, Sr., was genuinely astonished and, with a rebuking frown, thundered back, "Young man, sit down. When God pleases to convert the heathen, He will do it without your aid or mind!" (53) Carey was branded as a "miserable enthusiast" for having raised the issue.

This event did not smother the fire which was burning within Carey. Carey continued to read everything that he could lay his hands on and began researching for a book which he would publish in 1792 under the lengthy title: An Enquiry into the Obligations of Christians, to Use Means for the Conversion of the Heathens, In Which the Religious State of the Different Nations of the World, the Success of Former Undertakings, and the Practicability of Further Undertakings are considered, by William Carey.

After the publication of the Enquiry, Carey was asked to preach to another meeting of ministers at Northampton. He accepted the offer and took this occasion to preach a powerful sermon on Isaiah 54:2,3: "Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations. . . ." Carey's sermon was eloquent and powerful as he focused on the commands of the gospel with regard to mission work. George writes: "The ferment of his prolonged study and passion for spreading the gospel among the heathen overseas was poured into that one concentrated address." (33) "The effect of Carey's 'deathless sermon,' as it came to be called, was electric." 32 After this moving sermon, the society adopted the proposal: "That a meeting be prepared against the next ministers' meeting at Kettering, for forming a Baptist Society for propagating the gospel among the heathen." (33) Carey's zeal had been spread to the others.

The Mission society was established in 1792. In 1793 Carey, along with his family and a friend, left their home country, bound for India. The six month trip placed them in a new country where they immediately faced many dangers and trials. Five years later two missionaries came to join them, and together they established a colony at Serampore. This trio was able to accomplish much in the way of spreading the gospel through India. A Baptist church was organized, as well as schools for the training of the children. Carey, with the assistance of the natives, translated the New Testament into 33 different languages and distributed it throughout the region.

George concludes the story of Carey's life with a worthwhile chapter on the relevance of Carey for modern missions. Carey based his work on the unshakable principles of God's sovereignty, salvation in Christ alone, the authority of the Scripture, and faithfulness to his Lord and Savior. These are still the fundamental principles of mission work. The only successful mission is one which is built on these unchangeable principles. God's glory and honor must be the focus of all of our efforts. Only then will He use the church to gather His people from every tribe and tongue.

The appendix includes pictures of Carey's church, workshop, pulpit, and other interesting items. Worth the price of the book is a reprint of the entire body of Carey's Enquiry. In this book, Carey traces the history of missions from the Bible times until the present and lays out his principles for missions. These principles were tested and proved on the mission field of India.

Timothy George is to be complimented for this fine biography. The book is both easy to read and historically accurate.

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"LITTLE LIGHTS"

. . . let it shine!

by Connie Meyer

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus talked about lights. Look up Matt. 5 and find the verse that has the word candlestick in it. Copy the verse here:

"_____

_____

_____

_____Matt. 5:

"A Little Story"

One day Ivan and his friend John were walking home from school, when Ivan suddenly stopped and pointed to the ground.

"Hey John, look at this!" he cried, and stooped to get a closer look.

Ivan and John could not believe their eyes. There on the sidewalk was a twenty dollar bill! Ivan picked it up. Both boys looked at each other and then all around to see if anybody was nearby. They seemed to be all alone.

"Wow, what should we do with it?" asked John.

"Do with it? I know exactly what we should do with it. As soon as we can drop off our books, we're headed for the store!" But even as the words came out of Ivan's mouth, he had a funny feeling inside.

Soon they arrived at Ivan's home. Ivan's mother was at the door when the boys excitedly told her about what they had found.

"That's quite something!" she admitted. "So what are you going to do with it?"

"Spend it!" they chimed together.

"I see. Hmmm. Don't you think somebody might be missing it?"

"Sure," Ivan shrugged, "But finders keepers! How could we find who it belongs to anyway? We didn't see who dropped it."

"Well, do you remember exactly where you found it? It could belong to somebody who lives close to that spot," she suggested.

The boys nodded. It would be worth a try. They put their books on the table and with a sigh went out the door. Ivan had visions of the new baseball he wasn't going to get, and John could see the new bike bag slip away, but they both knew what they had to do. They located the exact spot where they found the bill, and marched up to the nearest house. An elderly lady answered the door, and she was indeed the one who had lost the money. She rewarded them each with one dollar, and thanked them over and over again.

John sighed as they walked away, "So much for our big shopping trip."

"Yep," answered Ivan. But both of them were pleased they hadn't lost an opportunity to let their light shine.

C	L	I	G	H	T	E	N	D	L
E	A	S	O	O	L	A	K	O	B
H	I	N	O	E	A	G	I	G	H
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candle
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shine

Connie Meyer is a member of Hope Prot. Ref. Church

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