

he heavens declare the glory of od; and the firmament shewech his handhuork. tinto day uccerech speech, highe unco highe shewech there is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line is gone out through ach he seca tabernacle for Which is as a bridegroom out of his chamber, and co of the heaven, and his circuit tinto the ends of it and there is nothing his from the heat thereof.

The Glory of God in Creation

"My family and I believe that God created the heavens and earth and all its original inhabitants, including man, solely by the power of His Word. Although our belief in the specific events described in Genesis 1 are a matter of faith, we find the physical evidence for design in nature overwhelming and entirely incompatible with the general theory of evolution. Because of my daughter's youth and lack of maturity in both religious and scientific matters I would be deeply offended if she were to be taught that the general theory of evolution is a fact rather than a materialistic paradigm of origins. I would consider any compulsory instruction which might undermine the religious beliefs of my daughter to be a serious abridgement of our first amendment rights to the free exercise of religion."

The above paragraph was written by a concerned father to a junior high school science staff that had asked its science students, including his daughter, to watch the COSMOS series on public television. The concerned father in this case was Dr. David Menton, an associate professor of anatomy at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

Dr. Menton pointed out in his letter that the COSMOS series, presented by Carl Sagan, is mostly speculation, and yet it is presented as scientific fact. "Most of this speculation in the name of science, including Sagan's, is based on the . . . assumption that there is no supernatural creator of the cosmos."

Even without Scripture we should know that Sagan is wrong. "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth His handiwork." (Ps. 19:1) "He left not Himself without witness." (Acts 14:17) "Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and

Postmaster: Send notice on Form 3579 to the Lutheran Spokesman, 2750 Oxford St. N., Roseville, MN 55113. Second Class postage paid at Lake Mills, IA 50450.

The Lutheran Spokesman, published monthly at 204 N. 2nd Ave. W., Lake Mills, IA 50450, is an official organ of the Church of the Lutheran Confession, the issues appearing during the first week of each month.

Editor: David Lau, 1534 West Ave., Red Wing, MN 55066; Artists: Waldemar Bernthal, Peter Gullerud, Randi Gullerud; Staff: F. Archer, H. Duehlmeier, M. Eibs, P. Fleischer, M. Galstad, D. Menton, Rollin Reim, R. Roehl, P. Schaller, W. V. Schaller, J. Schierenbeck, G. Sydow, M. Sydow, T. Thurow.

Material submitted for publication should be sent to Editor D. Lau one month before the date of publication. Announcements and other short notices should also be sent directly to Editor D. Lau. Business Manager: Benno Sydow, 2750 Oxford St. N., Roseville, MN 55113. Associate Business Manager: Peter Sydow. Subscriptions: \$3.00 for one year; \$5.50 for two years; \$8.00 for three years.

Group subscriptions to congregations: \$2.50.

divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse." (Rom. 1:20 - NASB)

-D. Lau

Note: The complete text of Dr. Menton's letter together with accompanying observations was printed in *Christian News*, March 2, 1981.

THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD

The Commandments of God. briefly summarized in the Decalog, are usually referred to as the Law of God. In His Law there is expressed in words His holy, unchangeable, righteous will for man, in which He sets forth what He would have us do and not do and how He wants us to be in our thoughts and desires, our feelings and attitudes of our hearts, and our words and actions. Each of these Commandments, on the one hand, consists of commands and, on the other of prohibitions in the form of "Thou shalt" and "Thou shalt not."

How Originally Given

At the creation of man God wrote His Law or Commandments in man's heart, so that our first parents knew instinctively what God would have them do and not do and how He wanted them to be in what they thought and desired and felt in their hearts and in what they did and said. When, however, they became guilty of that first disobedience, their understanding of the holy will of God became blurred and dimmed and darkened, as was the case with their understanding and knowledge of

God in general. Remnants of the nevertheless still remained written in their hearts. That can be seen from the fact that to this day the heathen, who have never had any contact with the written Word of God, still know that certain transgressions, such as murder, adultery, robbery, and theft are contrary to the holy will of the Supreme Being and will be punished by Him. The apostle Paul points this out when he writes: "When the Gentiles, which have not the Law, do by nature the things contained in the Law, these, having not the Law, are a Law unto themselves; which show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the meanwhile accusing or else excusing one another." (Romans 2:14-15)

Given in Written Form

In order that fallen man might have a clear understanding again of what the holy and righteous God required of him if he were to have eternal life and to enjoy fellowship with his Maker, and to impress upon him how desperately he needed the promised Savior from sin, God gave him His Law in written form in the Ten Commandments on two tables of stone through His servant Moses from Mount Sinai, (Exodus 20:1-17) When He sent His Son to earth in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, Jesus set forth the true and full spiritual meaning and implication of these Commandments in His well-known Sermon on the Mount found in Matthew, chapters 5-7. Dr. Martin Luther in his inimitable style has summed up the content and meaning of these Commandments in the First Chief Part of his Small Catechism. which most of us have memorized and which we do well to apply daily to our thoughts and words and actions.

The Purpose of the Commandments

When first given, the keeping of the Commandments would have brought man eternal life. That can be seen from Jesus' words to the lawver, who had come to Him with the question: "Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" When Jesus then asked him: "What is written in the Law? How readest thou?" and the lawver then recited the summary of the Ten Commandments, Jesus replied: "This do, and thou shalt live." (Luke 10:25-28). Since man's Fall, however, with its attendant complete corruption of his entire nature and make-up, which has been passed on to all his descendants. no man on earth can begin to keep these Commandments, as God requires that they be kept. Therefore it is a false, misleading dream cherished

by so many that they think they can obtain everlasting life by their own efforts at keeping them. God makes that unmistakably plain when He declares: "There is not a just man upon earth that doeth good and sinneth not," (Ecclesiastes 7:20); and when Isaiah writes: "We are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags," (Isaiah 64:6a). Since the Fall, the Commandments of God serve a different purpose, in fact a three-fold one.

As a Curb

For one thing, they serve as a curb to the ungodly and the wicked to check to some extent at least the coarse outbursts of sin. such as murder. adultery, robbery, theft, and so help to preserve some measure of order in this wicked world. Try to imagine what life here on earth would be like if there were no traces of the Commandments of God left written in men's hearts, restraining them with the fear of God's punishment to follow on their sinning. This same purpose the Law serves also in the case of our Old Adam, our sinful flesh, which in us Christians too is not different from the unbelieving world around us. The effect which the Commandments of God have on our Old Adam as a deterrent from sinning the psalmist describes in the words: "My flesh trembleth for fear of Thee; and I am afraid of Thy judgments," (Psalm 119:20). That is the effect which God's holy Law has on the evil inclinations of our sinful flesh.

As a Mirror

Their chief purpose, however, is to serve as a mirror. When we hold the Commandments of God up as a looking glass to our thoughts and desires, the feelings and attitudes of our hearts, and our words and actions, we become painfully aware of how far we come short of the glory of God. how we have transgressed each of God's Commandments with innumerable sins of omission and commission, and how even what we considered our best and holiest deeds are still so tainted with sin that we must cry out: "From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it, but wounds and bruises and putrifying sores," (Isaiah 1:6a); and with the publican: "God be merciful to me a sinner," (Luke 18:13b). In that way we, as we are, could never hope to appear in judgment of God on the basis of our own merits, no matter how righteous we may appear in the eyes of our fellowmen. The Commandments of God show us how desperately we need a Savior from sin and a righteousness, other than our own, to cover us, if we are ever to receive a favorable verdict in God's judgment. Of this also we believers need to be reminded ever and again, so that we may be found living in daily repentance and may cast ourselves ever anew upon God's mercy in Jesus for forgiveness and the righteousness we need before Him. To this chief use of the Law Paul has reference when he writes: "I had not known sin, but by the Law; for I had not known lust.

except the Law had said, Thou shalt not covet." (Romans 7:7)

As a Rule

For us, who from the Commandments of God have recognized our utter sinfulness and have followed the Gospel call and have fled to our Savior for refuge and by faith have laid hold on the righteousness offered us by Him, the Law now serves as a rule, showing us how, as grateful, forgiven children of God, we should now live our lives to His honor and glory. The new man in us, created by God through faith in our Savior, needs no such rule and guide. This new man knows the holy will of God in all things and sincerely wants to do it. But we still have with us, as long as we live here on earth. the sin-corrupted Old Man, who is ever ready to inject his own manmade ideas as to how God would be served. That we may not be led into false works and into mistaken notions as to what pleases God and what displeases Him, God has given us this infallible guide for our conduct and behavior as Christians, so that we can say with the psalmist: "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path," (Psalm 119:105); and: "I will run the way of Thy Commandments, when Thou shalt enlarge my heart (that is, make it large with gratefulness for Thy forgiveness)." (Psalm 105:32)

With this threefold purpose of the Commandments in mind, we shall, God-willing, in subsequent issues of the Lutheran Spokesman review each of the Ten Commandments, in

which God has summarized His holy Law.

The Law of God is good and wise And sets His will before our eyes, Shows us the way of righteousness And dooms to death when we transgress.

Its light of holiness imparts
The knowledge of our sinful hearts

That we may see our lost estate And seek deliverance ere too late.

To those who help in Christ have found And would in works of love abound It shows what deeds are His delight And should be done as good and right.

(Luth. Hymn. 295:St. 1-3)

-H. C. Duehlmeier

HOPE IN AFFLICTION

For the most part good health and physical strength go with being young. Strenuous activity is not only enjoyed but becomes a necessary part of life. It is quite possible that in the vanity of the flesh we take false pride in good health and physical strength as if it were something of our own doing. But, on the other hand, it could be well within the bounds of godliness that we rejoice in this good health as a gift that God has given us.

Facing Aging and Death

All men, not just Christians, whether they like it or not, have to acknowledge the Scriptural truth: "It is appointed unto men once to die." (Heb. 9:27) Because of sin the Lord has said: "Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." (Gen. 3:19) Christianity has to do with this fundamental fact. As believers we do not try to pretend it isn't so. Because it is so, our health and physical strength come into the picture. As we age, who among us does not look upon losing the health and vigor of youth with a touch of sadness?

We know our physical strength is

waning. The minute we are born we start to die. We accept this, but for a good share of our life it is not a dominant thought that is present every waking moment. It does not bother us too much. But when aging takes hold, when serious illness and ailments afflict us, when the prospect of death becomes more imminent, then inward, emotional problems can develop. Even as Christians we may become woefully despondent, and life becomes a cheerless drudgery.

God's Word Gives Hope

All of this belies our faith. This is the time when Christianity should come into its own. Concerning this very matter, Scripture says that we should "sorrow not, even as others which have no hope." (1 Thess. 4:13) We have been "begotten unto a lively hope" (1 Pet. 1:3) through faith in Jesus Christ and can quite properly call ourselves a people of hope. This becomes our stay during the adverse days of declining health.

What has been said about faith in Christ cannot be disputed, but we are human and the flesh is still with us. In our humanness we are not always as we should be. The fleshly weakness of being cowardly in the face of physical death is included in the forgiveness of sins, but who of us would care to die that way, in terror of the unknown?

We do well to fortify ourselves in this matter, and we do so by making use of that one thing that provides lasting good health, power, and strength: the Word of God with its message of salvation. This Word will help us rid ourselves of the many vagrant thoughts of the flesh which undermine our hope of a happy life to come. This gets to be a matter not so much of what to believe, but of avoiding that which destroys our Christian well-being, looking Scripture for an answer to the prayer: "Help Thou mine unbelief." (Mk. 9:24)

Emotional Upsets

We are not going to pretend that we are always entirely free of depression, even tears, in moments of extreme frustration, but to let this develop into tragic hopelessness is not consistent with what we believe.

We can do something about our emotions, but the society in which we live does not help us. It is noticeable in conversation that people do not use the word "cancer" in talking to one who has been involved with it. In talking with doctors, often the patient has to come up with the word that describes a condition or the surgical procedure needed. Everyone is fearful of traumatic effect.

The opposite, not getting emo-

tionally upset under conditions of adversity, draws attention to itself. We have heard such words as these: "How can you take this as you do? Why don't you cry?" Experiences like this lead one to think that for the most part people are inclined to overreact emotionally in situations where there should be quiet acceptance.

Fleshly Stoicism

When we say that something can be done about maintaining our emotional equilibrium, we have to be aware of what direction we are going. Stoicism is possible to the flesh. There was much publicity given to our well-known senator from Minnesota (Hubert H. Humphrey), who, although he had terminal cancer, did not overwhelm himself with self-pity. He talked boldly and confidently. even with humor, about his condition. We must admit that we have a certain admiration for a man who holds himself together under trying circumstances. Yet, from as much as we know, all this may have been just "whistling in the dark," a fleshly bravado.

Faith in Christ

This is not what we are looking for when we talk of seeking emotional stability. We seek that which rests on faith. No matter what men may say, ultimately Christianity has to do with the other world, the world to come. Indeed, there is nothing better for living happily in this present world than faith in Christ which makes living in the world to come possible. For this very reason every Christian

should be minded as was the apostle Paul: "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain... having a desire to depart and to be with Christ, which is far better." (Phil. 1:21-23) No tragic, emotional undertones here. Going to heaven is not a bad prospect.

The secret of a joyful, confident life is not to pretend that death does not exist. Even natural man has to agree with the hymn which says: "In the midst of earthly life, snares of death surround us." (LH #590) The

Christian is a hard-headed realist. He faces up to the fact of death secure in the knowledge that it has been overcome in Christ. The world, in forsaking Christ and His Word, has fearsome worries on how to handle death and dying. But as Christians we have all the needful answers in the Bible and its message of salvation in Christ.

—G. Sydow

Note: The above is an adaptation of a conference paper.

"DEAR NEIGHBOR . . . "

Recently a member of one of our congregations upon returning home found a hand-written note together with a magazine left by a visitor. The note began: "Dear Neighbor, I'm sorry I missed you today. I stopped by briefly to share an encouraging thought with you about conditions in the world. Even though they look very bleak in some ways, with the rising living costs, rising crime rate, nuclear threat, etc., we have something much better to look forward to in the not too distant future." After making reference to some Bible passages and Bible chronology, letter was concluded with the invitation: "We would enjoy discussing it with you further. To arrange this please call me or write a note. Sincerely." (name signed.)

The people who received this note were not acquainted with the lady who wrote the note. This "neighbor" was not a next-door neighbor, but a person who lived some 30 miles away. That this person wrote in a most sincere manner is not to be disputed. That she was zealous in her efforts to win over someone else to her beliefs is also most evident. But the fact is that she was offering her "neighbor" some spiritual poison!

Guess Who?

Perhaps you have guessed already that the person who wrote the friendly note is a Jehovah's Witness. The magazine she left is the publication AWAKE!, published by Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York, Inc. It is published in 34 languages and the average printing for each issue is 7,650,000. (A few more than our Lutheran Spokesman!) What does this magazine Awake! have to offer that it is published in such great numbers and made available to so many people?

A Closer Look

This particular issue, dated November 22, 1980, was designed to attract the attention of people in our country with several articles dealing with the danger of chemical dumping in such places as the Love Canal, Niagara Falls, New York. One can understand how such articles might get the casual reader interested, and then they would also read the other articles which speak of spiritual matters.

Concerning the general spiritual content of the issue, these facts should be noted: There is no Gospel of Christ in the entire booklet! Not once in any way is Jesus spoken of as the Savior of mankind. The central doctrine of the Bible, justification by faith alone, is not taught. The name Jesus or Christ is found only twice in the entire magazine. This is not surprising since Jehovah's Witnesses deny the deity of Christ. One section is devoted to questions to test the reader's Bible I.Q. In the answer given to one of the questions the false statement is made: "The Bible shows that baptism by complete immersion is very important." That is not true, for the Bible does not teach what mode of baptism should be used. In another section is found an advertisement for "My Book of Bible Stories," purportedly a favorite for little children. God help the little children who are subjected to the literature of Jehovah's Witnesses! In another article the denial of everlasting punishment in hell is taught.

The Great Theocracy

The Jehovah's Witnesses' answer to the deadly chemical wastes found in America is summed up in these words: "God's kingdom will soon cleanse earth of all pollution and make possible a paradise with pure waters and land." This is what the lady who wrote the "Dear Neighbor" note was referring to when she said: "We have something much better to look forward to in the not too distant future." Elsewhere in the magazine Awake! the Great Theocracy is referred to when it speaks of God's "promises of a new system."

What is this Great Theocracy? Theocracy means rule of God. According to the thinking of Jehovah's Witnesses. God is now "gathering out" multitudes of people of good will who will inherit the new world after what they refer to as the imminent battle of Armageddon is fought. In this universal battle the holy angels are to defeat the army of Satan. Then those who have proved their integrity under test in this old world will populate the earth with righteous people. A resurrection also will take place which will be another way of filling the cleansed earth with better inhabitants. Then what they call "righteous princes" will rule the earth under Christ as "King of the Theocracy." The willfully wicked shall never be resurrected from the dead. One special group, the 144,000 (a symbolical number mentioned in Rev. 7 and 14) Christians, will become the "bride of Christ" and rule with him in heaven.

This kind of teaching is very prominent in Jehovah's Witnesses' literature. How different it is from the Bible's teaching! The Bible emphasizes Christ, the Son of God, crucified for the sins of all mankind, justification by faith alone without the deeds of the law, preaching the Gospel of Christ in all the world, the resurrection of all the dead, and the Judgment on the Last Day, everlasting punishment in hell for all unbelievers, and eternal life in heaven for all who trust in Jesus Christ as their only Savior.

"Satan Slaves" Converted

We want to concentrate especially on one article in the magazine, "'Satan Slaves' Find a New Master," because it is filled with the spiritual poison which the Jehovah's Witnesses are peddling to their "dear neighbors." It tells about two young men from Tijuana, Mexico, a town just south of the California border. They were members of a motorcycle gang called "Satan Slaves." Their motto was "Ride hard, die fast." They fought, robbed, smuggled dope, and spent years in jail.

Then some Jehovah's Witnesses got hold of them and told them all about Jehovah's "promises of a new system," (the Great Theocracy) and that they had to "get rid of their old personality." Then after some time they decided they were going to "quit the old ways." Two of the girls who rode with the motorcycle gang also changed their ways of living. One said: "All my life I had been searching for a true friend. I realized Je-

hovah was that friend. I dropped the marijuana and the fornication, but what I had to fight the longest was the terrible hatred I had of everyone and everything. With the help of Jehovah, and over a period of time, I have been able to turn around and get rid of the hate."

Many times in the article the Bible is spoken of. One of the girls said: "You can't realize what a change the Bible has made in my life." Yet Christ, who occupies the most prominent position in the Bible, and who said: "If ye continue in My word, then are ye My disciples indeed," (Jn. 8:31) is not mentioned at all in this article.

This article is supposed to be a testimony of how former sinners became believers, but not once is Jesus' name mentioned! How does this compare with the following Bible passages? "Neither is there salvation in any other (besides Christ): for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12) "The Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: that all men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He that honoreth not the Son honoreth not the Father which hath sent Him." (Jn. 5:22-23) "And this is the will of Him that sent Me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day." (Jn. 6:40)

The apostle Paul tells us how people come to have God as their Father. "For ye are all the children

of God by faith in Christ Jesus." (Gal. 3:26) Paul also teaches how sinners become righteous before God: "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." (Rom. 3:23-24) Not one word is said in this article about forgiveness of sins in Christ. Yet the Word of God so clearly teaches: "In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding." (Eph. 1:7-8 - NIV)

A Denial of the Holy Spirit

The Bible teaches clearly that the Holy Spirit works in the hearts of people through the means of grace (Gospel in word and sacrament), so that by God's grace they believe in Jesus as their Savior. Not only do the Jehovah's Witnesses not believe this. but they also deny that the Holy Spirit is true God together with the Father and the Son. In other words. Jehovah's Witnesses deny the doctrine of the Trinity. In the article we examined there is a reference to Galatians 5:22-23, which says, according to the NIV: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." But the Jehovah's Witnesses do not capitalize the word "Spirit" since they believe that the Holy Spirit is not a personal being, but merely a dynamic force.

If the Bible teaching that conversion is the work of the Holy Spirit

through the means of grace is denied, then the so-called conversion the Jehovah's Witnesses refer to is nothing more than a self-righteous boasting of what they think they have brought about in changing their lives.

But listen to the testimony of the Holy Scriptures. "No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord,' except by the Holy Spirit." (1 Cor. 12:3b - NIV) Paul writes: "But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God." (1 Cor. 6:11 - NIV) To the Romans Paul wrote: "For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men." (Rom. 14:17-18) The work of sanctification is done by the Holy Spirit through the Gospel Word. Jesus prayed to His heavenly Father: "Sanctify them through Thy truth: Thy word is truth." (Jn. 17:17) Peter writes that we are "born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." (1 Pet. 1:23)

One thing is certain. If we are to be able to recognize the false teachings of the Jehovah's Witnesses for the spiritual poison they are, we will have to read and study God's Word. And what a joy it should be to us to do this! For it is GOD'S Word and it is His SAVING Word. We should all heed what Paul wrote to Timothy: "But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast

been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them. And that from a child thou hast known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God (God-breathed), and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction

in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect (altogether fit), thoroughly furnished unto all good works." (2 Tim. 3:14-17)

"Lord, grant us all aright to learn The Wisdom it imparts

And to its heavenly teaching turn With simple, childlike hearts."

(LH #291:5)

-M. H. Eibs

Mrs. George (Pauline) Tiefel

January 25, 1890 - December 16, 1980

"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies." (Prov. 31:10)

For several generations of us, Pastor George Tiefel (1886-1971) and his good wife. Pauline, were more affectionately just "Papa" and "Mama." They were pious parents, not only of their own children by blood, but of hundreds of us who were privileged to know and address them in such close. family terms. Their hearts were enlarged by the love of God to include many of us in their "family." So strong was their love that many of us were made to feel as though we were adopted sons and daughters.

Few Christian women seem to receive much comfort from the Proverbs 31 description of the ideal. Yet, although she would have been the

first to disclaim it, "Mama" Tiefel most nearly fit the Proverbial ideal for all who knew her.

The story of the senior Tiefels would fill at least several fascinating books. For example, as we recall, their marriage began with a "honeymoon" trip by train from Owosso, Michigan, to Chicago, Illinois, and from there to Nebraska by horse and buggy.

Many are the tales remembered by this writer of "Papa" Tiefel, recounting how "Mama," out of a kitchen budget absolutely unbelievable in today's economy, not only nourished her family well, but saved for mission and benevolent activity great sums from pennies. Do we praise her? Of course we do, for her "... works do follow" her. But far more important, Mrs. Pauline Tiefel was a "virtuous

woman," a truly Christian lady, whose life glorifies our heavenly Father.

Mrs. Tiefel departed this life a few months short of her 91st birthday. Her earthly resting place is in Highland Memorial Park Cemetery at Appleton, Wisconsin. Her passing is mourned by five sons, two daughters, three sisters, one brother, thirteen grandchildren, nineteen great grandchildren, and a host of us who were always made to feel a part of the family.

The funeral sermon, based on Romans 14:8-9, spoke of the Christian's legacy in life and in death: "We are the Lord's."

"Her price is far above rubies."

—R. J. Naumann

BIBLE READINGS FOR JUNE

| June Scripture Theme | | Theme | Hymn |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Acts 13:42-52 | Speaking out Boldly | 138:1-3 |
| 2 | Acts 14:19-28 | Strengthening the Churches | 338 |
| 3 | Isaiah 6:1-8 | Willing to Serve | 489 |
| 4 | Isaiah 52:7-10 | The Joy of Good Tidings | 487 |
| 5 | Acts 15:1-11 | Saved through Grace | 289 |
| 6 | Acts 15:12-21 | One God for All Persons | 129 |
| 7 | Galatians 2:1-10 | Apostles to the Gentiles | 642 |
| 8 | Galatians 2:11-20 | Crucified with Christ | 375 |
| 9 | Galatians 5:1-12 | Hold Fast Your Freedom! | 373:1-4 |
| 10 | Galatians 5:13-25 | Walk by the Spirit | 234 |
| 11 | Isaiah 40:1-11 | Prepare for God | 61 |
| 12 | Revelation 2:1-11 | Be Faithful unto Death | 470 |
| 13 | Revelation 2:12-17 | Resist Temptation | 479 |
| 14 | Revelation 2:18-29 | Hold Fast What You Have | 334 |
| 15 | Acts 15:26—16:5 | Paul Finds New Helpers | 496 |
| 16 | Acts 16:6-15 | Some Hearts Are Open | 5 |
| 17 | Acts 16:16-24 | Opposition Arises | 265 |
| 18 | Luke 8:4-15 | Responses Differ | 49 |
| 19 | Isaiah 40:12-23 | The Majesty of God | 15 |
| 20 | Isaiah 40:24-31 | God's Unfailing Power | 39 |
| 21 | Isaiah 55:1-11 | God's Greatness and Mercy | 284 |
| 22 | Isaiah 57:14-21 | The High and Lofty One | 237 |
| 23 | Isaiah 59:1-15 | Separated from God | 318 |
| 24 | Acts 17:16-23 | Paul Encounters Greek Philosophers | 65:esp.6 |
| 25 | Acts 17:24-34 | Paul Receives a Mixed Response | 467:esp.2 |
| 26 | 1 John 1 | Fellowship in the Light | 545 |
| 27 | Acts 18:5-11 | Paul Turns to the Gentiles | 498 |
| 28 | Acts 18:12-17 | Paul before Gallio | 267 |
| 29 | 1 Thessalonians 1 | Turning to the Living God | 504 |
| 30 | 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12 | Faithful Laborers | 491 |
| | | | −P. Schaller |

VBS Series

.45%

A new five-day Vacation Bible School series entitled "Pictures of Jesus in the Old Testament" has been prepared and published by a group of lower Michigan pastors and laypeople.

The series focuses on five Old Testament pictures of Jesus (The Passover, the Scapegoat, the Brass Snake, Jonah and the Fish, and the Shepherd Psalm) and includes story sheets, work sheets, coloring sheets, and teachers' notes for the following Fall grade levels:

Level I — Preschool — Grade 1 Level II — Grades 2 and 3 Level III — Grades 4 and 5 Level IV — Grades 6-8

Lessons may be ordered at a cost of 50 cents per student plus postage. Sample packets may be ordered at a cost of \$2.50 postpaid.

Also available are all levels of the 1979 VBS series, "The Psalms — Hymnbook of the Holy Spirit." Cost for this series: 40 cents per student plus postage.

Please send all orders or correspondence to: Pastor David Schierenbeck 3460 Crestmont Drive Saginaw, Michigan 48603

New Mexico Schedule of Services

Grace, McIntosh-

Every Sunday: Sunday School—9:30 a.m.; Worship Service—10:30 a.m.

Redeemer, Tucumcari-

2nd and 4th Sundays: Sunday School—6:30 p.m.; Worship Service—7:30 p.m. 2602 South 2nd Street, Episcopal Church Building. Call (505) 461-3738.

Grace, Carlsbad-

1st and 3rd Sundays: Sunday School—6:30 p.m.; Worship Service—7:30 p.m. Corner of Blodgett & Pate Streets, 7th Day Adventist Church Building. Call (505) 885-4893.

-David P. Baker

An Explanation

This editor understood the word "Yearning" as a poetic way of describing the child's need for Baptism. (See "A Gift from the Lord" in March issue.) Since "that which is born of the flesh is flesh" (Jn. 3:6), an unbaptized child cannot ordinarily have any desire for spiritual things.

-D. Lau

CLC Youth and Family Camp

Date: July 12-18 (Sunday noon through Saturday noon)

Site: On the campus of Immanuel Lutheran College, Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

What: Activities will include Bible study and devotions for all who attend, hiking and nature study, swimming, softball, tennis, canoeing, handicrafts, astronomy, instruction in basketball and volleyball fundamentals, movies, campfires, and a lot of fun.

Cost: \$30 per youth camper ages 9-14, reduced rate for additional youth campers of the same family. Rates include lodging and meals for 7 days and regular camp activities. Registration will be limited to 140 youth campers housed in the dormitories. Families will be able to camp on the campus grounds. Cost to families will vary depending on meals and needs provided. Registration must be made by June 13, 1981.

For a brochure with complete details, contact your pastor or write:

Professor Michael Buck

Professor Michael Buck Immanuel Lutheran College Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701.

Roughrider Youth Camp

Once again this summer, Our Savior's Lutheran Church of Jamestown, N.D., assisted by neighboring sister congregations, is planning a church camp for children, grades 5 through 12. The location is Camp Rokiwan on Spiritwood Lake, 15 miles northeast of Jamestown. The dates are June 22-26.

For further details and a brochure, contact:

Pastor Paul G. Fleischer 424 Fifth Avenue S.E. Jamestown, ND 58401

New Address

Pastor David P. Baker Box 58, McIntosh, NM 87032 (505) 384-2385

Wisconsin Delegate Conference

Date: May 24-25, 1981

Place: Calvary Lutheran Church, Mar-

quette, Michigan

Time: The conference convenes at 7:00

p.m. (Eastern time) on the 24th and closes at 3:00 p.m. on the 25th.

Agenda: Presentation of the Coordinating Council report;

Application of the Doctrine of Fellowship to the Individual Member

-J. Klatt;

What Is Christian Giving?—J. Pfeif-

Notes: All delegates, pastors, professors, and male teachers are requested to announce (or excuse) to the host congregation in good time. Wives can be

accommodated if they are announced. Sunday supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. (Eastern time)

-John Ude, Secretary

West Central Delegate Conference

Time: June 9-11, 1981, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Central Time Tuesday morning.

Place: Trinity Lutheran Church, Water-

town, South Dakota.

Agenda:

A Devotional Study of the Work of the Holy Spirit As Described in Rom. 8:1-27— R. Mackensen:

Encouraging Our Young People to Prepare for the Teaching and Preaching Ministries—to be reassigned;

Christian Living in the Home—M. Sydow; Devotional Study: Isaiah Speaks of Our Savior, Isaiah 53—W. Mielke;

An Evaluation of Christian Giving—Luther

Conference Chaplain: Paul Fleischer Conference Preacher: David P. Baker

Announce to the host pastor, Vernon Greve.

-David P. Baker. Secretary

Minnesota Delegate Conference

Time: June 28, 1981, beginning at 3:00

p.m.

Place: Faith Lutheran Church, New Ulm,

Minnesota

Agenda: The Elders As Assistants to the Pastor: Their Function and Training

-Edwin Hasse;

Private Education and the Law-James Sydow;

Board Reports.

-Benno Sydow, Secretary

Lutheran Spokesman Subscriptions

Congregational group subscriptions to the Lutheran Spokesman expire with the June 1981 issue. If you have the code of JN 99 in the upper right corner of your mailing label you are affected. To renew your subscription contact your pastor. The group lists were sent to pastors during the last week of April.

-Benno Sydow, Business Manager

Send Change of Address to:

THE LUTHERAN SPOKESMAN 2750 OXFORD ST. N. ROSEVILLE. MN 55113

Please include an old address label to expedite processing.

S 412 148 JN99 2 ST JOHNS LUTH CHURCH C/O PASTOR 1040 11TH ST CLARKSTON WA 99403