

A Diamond In The Rough

"But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord."

2 Corinthians 3:18.



John Vaughan writes about a spring day prior to the Civil War. A boy named Jim was looking for work and stopped at Mr. Worthy Taylor's prosperous Ohio farm. The farmer gave Jim a summer job cutting stove wood, bringing in the cows and making himself useful. The boy ate in the kitchen and slept in the haymow.

During the summer, Jim fell in love with Mr. Taylor's daughter. However, the father refused to give his daughter in marriage, saying that Jim had no money, no name and very poor prospects. Jim put his belongings in an old carpetbag and disappeared. Taylor could not see it, but this boy was going to amount to something after all.

Thirty years later the farmer pulled down his old barn to make way for a new one. On one of the rafters above the hayloft, he found that Jim had carved his full name — James A. Garfield. He was then President of the United States.

The Lord looks beyond what we are to what we can become by His grace. When Jeremiah said, "Behold, I do not know how to speak, Because I am a youth," God replied, "Now behold, I have made you today as a fortified city, and as a pillar of iron and as walls of bronze." God turned a timid Gideon into a mighty judge. He transformed a powerful persecutor into the apostle Paul. He changed rash, impulsive Peter into his spokesman at Pentecost.

A sculptor can turn marble into a masterpiece. An artist can change a canvas into a creation. A carpenter can transform trees, steel and rocks into houses. A musician can use a violin to produce a melody. However, only the grace of Jesus Christ can make a saint out of a sinner. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17.

Cory Collins, via *Bulletin Digest*

If there is a smile in your heart, your face will show it.

News & Notes

SURGERY TOMORROW: Elaine McClung is scheduled for gall bladder surgery tomorrow morning at City Hospital. Remember Elaine in your prayers.

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS: Mary Powell (friend of Marlene Reynolds) had a recent biopsy which revealed a lung tumor. Marlene requests prayers for Mary.

NEW ADDRESS: Ruby Kenney, Pleasantview North Retirement & Rehabilitation Center, 451 Valley Road, Salem, OH 44460.

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. Help the ladies in this good work.

PANTRY: Toilet tissue, soap, deodorant.

SICK & SHUT-IN: Weirton Medical Center: Jean Larrimore. AT HOME: Jackie Parsons, Bertha Seman, Bill & Pat Wright, Don & Donna Parsons, Taylor Heinselman, Ruth Brewer, Lloyd & Virginia Ferrell, Lloyd Cowdery, Mabel Sprout, Virginia Rickerd, Bette Gentry, Fred Larrimore, Sr., Fred Larrimore, Jr., Cheryl Stackpole, Betty Dunn (Pat Wright's mother). NURSING HOMES: Fox: Ray Baker, Opal Howell (grandmother of Denise Noland). Calcutta Health Care: Virginia Clutter. Weirton Geriatric Center: Edna McKitrick, Ila Plum. Aspen Manor, Wellsburg: Ione Asher.

Truth: The Key To Freedom



To the Jews who had believed Him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teachings, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31,32)

Like Pilate, many ask, "What is truth? God's Word is truth (John 17:17), Jesus is truth (John 14:6). When we know God's Word (the written word and the living Word), we experience real freedom. Truth is absolute. Whatever the circumstance, whatever the culture, whatever the specific situation, truth is truth. Period.

The mighty message of truth must not be confused with the weak vessels who proclaim it. Truth is truth, no matter who speaks it.

Truth is consistent. Human interpretations are not. Human applications may not be. But the truth never changes. When our views and God's truth collide, we must be willing to admit our error and change our outlook to coincide with the Father's. Too often, we attempt to distort God's Word and make it fit our position. Then we become slaves to our own interpretations.

In order to appreciate and enjoy the freedom we have in Christ, we must know Jesus — the living Word and the ultimate Truth.

- Jay Hanley, Vernon, TX, via *Bulletin Digest*

Meetings & Lectures

Weirton Heights	Oct. 7-11	Ted Rush
Madison, WV	Oct. 8-12	F. Higginbotham
36th St., Vienna, WV	Oct. 14-17	F. Higginbotham
WVSOP Lectures	Oct. 21-25	Various Speakers