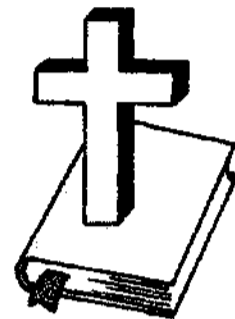


“Quietly Holding Fast”

A lot of people are battered and bruised by life. Sometimes it's a result of personal conduct — reaping exactly what we sow — but some things are beyond our control. “What-am-I-going-to-do” thoughts run through your head. Where can you turn? Who is there for you?



“In the bitter waves of woe,
Beaten and tossed about
By the sullen winds that blow
From the desolate shores of doubt,
Where the anchors that faith has cast
Are dragging in the gale,
I am **quietly holding fast**
To the things that cannot fail.”



“We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure ... Jesus who went before us, has entered on our behalf” (Hebrews 6:19-20).

“God has said, ‘Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you’ So we say with confidence, ‘The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?’” (Hebrews 13:5-6).

“Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength” ... (Isaiah 40:28-31).

The headlines are depressing, but the Word of God is always refreshing.

- Les McGalliard, Oldham Lane Church of Christ, Abilene, TX - via *Bulletin Digest*

I met God in the morning, when my day was at its best,
And His presence came like sunrise, like the glory in my breast.

All day long the Presence lingered, all day long He stayed with me,
And we sailed in perfect calmness O'er a very troubled sea.

Other ships were blown and battered, other ships were sore distressed;
But the winds that seemed to drive them brought to us a peace and rest.

Then I thought of other mornings, with a keen remorse of mind,
When I, too, had loosed the moorings with the Presence left behind.

So I think I know the secret, learned from a troubled way:
You must meet Him in the morning if you want Him through the day.

- Author Unknown -

Even through the storm, the Son still shines.

News & Notes

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS & ENCOURAGEMENT: Rich Robinson, Bobby Sheville.

YOU ARE INVITED: To a get-together at Donna Sage's home tomorrow, Sept. 1st at 3:00 p.m. Take a covered dish.

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. Join the ladies to help with this work to make bears for children in trauma situations.

PANTRY: Canned Vegetables. Please help restock the pantry.

NURSING HOME VISIT/DEVOTIONAL: Next Saturday, Sept. 6th, 2:30 p.m. at Fox.

FRIDAY NIGHT SING: Sept. 12th, 7:00-8:30 p.m. at McKinleyville. Refreshments served after the singing.

THOSE WITH PHYSICAL PROBLEMS: At Home: Mabel Sprout, Virginia Rickerd, Harry Nice, Michelle Hanlon, Dan Williams, Blondenia Orr, Jenny Rhodes, Bette Gentry. Remember and encourage others confined to their homes and in nursing homes. They are listed on the bulletin board.

MEETINGS:

East Liverpool	Sept. 7-10	Terry Varner
Langeloth	Sept. 7-11	Mike Phillips
Sand Hill	Sept. 14-19	Jeremy Main
McKinleyville	Sept. 21-25	Different Speakers
CHESTER	Sept. 28-Oct. 2	Steve Higginbotham

How Much Does Sin Weigh?

“And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience” (Ephesians 2:1-2).

When we are made to understand the true nature of sin, “death's sting” (1 Corinthians 15:56) and the effect it has in our lives, most of us will be amazed at what we may learn about our condition. The typical mindset today is that sin has no effect on us; most do not feel the burden of sin because they have either dismissed the thought of how it affects their lives, or have failed to learn how it is affecting their lives now and in the future. The following impressive encounter I ran across the other day, some will appreciate the lesson.

An open-air preacher was telling the old, old story, when a thoughtless youth rapped out, “You tell us about the burden of sin. I feel none.” Then he flippantly added, “How much does sin weigh? Eighty pounds? Ten pounds? The preacher answered, “Tell me if I put a 400 pound weight on the chest of a dead man, would he feel it?” “No, because he is dead,” answered the youth. The preacher responded, “And the man who feels no load of sin is dead spiritually.” The lad's remarks only proved what he was.

The Scriptures call it “Dead in trespasses and sins” (Ephesians 2:1). Do you feel the burden of your sins? We all have them you know. If you do not, you may well feel alarmed to know that you are dead spiritually.

- Tim Luster, Sr., Sheridan Rd. Church of Christ, Tulsa, OK - via *Bulletin Digest*