

GOD'S

REVIVALIST

December 2016

and Bible Advocate



Merry Christmas



about this issue

FARMER CHRISTMASSES

Coming to the big city of Cincinnati from Blaketown, West Virginia, in 1952 was quite a change for the Farmers. I was not quite three, and my brother Harry was five. For several years we lived on the GBS campus where both our parents—Betty and Elmer—attended school.

It was here that I got my first exposure to the Salvation Army. My mother loved bargains and was not shy about haggling over prices—especially thrift store prices. Some of my early memories are of accompanying my mother to the Salvation Army store in Newport, Kentucky. Often, when the truck pulled up to the dock, Betty Farmer and her two boys were there waiting. If something particularly caught mother’s attention, she would snag it before it even made it to the floor and negotiate the price directly with the staff. Interestingly, some of our Christmases came from that store.

When Daddy completed his ThB degree in 1956, his first pastorate was the Pilgrim Holiness Church in Newport, Kentucky—still close to our favorite store!

It was Daddy’s job to secure a Christmas tree each year. Early on, those trees tended to be so scraggly that they challenged plant taxonomy. But Daddy could see beyond the tree to its “possibilities,” which often would require some creative reengineering to enable it to rise to its full potential. I remember him removing branches from the side of the tree that was against the wall and using coat hangers to wire them into spots which needed some help.

After that process, mother stepped in—decorating the tree was her forte. She used an eclectic assortment of ornaments and mismatched light sets—of course, many of these items came from “our” store. Then came the tinsel—the long and skinny strips of shiny foil-like material. Mother’s tinsel technique was something to behold! After everything else was on the tree, she would stand back and survey it before launching handfuls of tinsel—to fill in an empty spot, hide a nonfunctional light, or camouflage the wired-on tree limbs.

Those early Farmer Christmases were always a happy time. There was so much love permeating our family that we didn’t pay much attention to the scraggly tree or the second-hand gifts. We had parents who loved us—parents who taught us to love God and others.

Thanks, Mother! Thanks, Daddy! —KF 🐾

CONTENTS

DECEMBER 2016
Volume 128 No. 9

FEATURES

He Made Himself Nothing	6
by Colleen Chao	
Reducing Holiday Stress	8
by Gary Lee	
The Gift Wrap And The Jewel	9
by Wanda B. Goines	
Campus Improvements	14
by Richard Miles	

DEPARTMENTS

The President’s Page	3
Letters To The Editor	5
Thoughts For The Quiet Hour	7
News From The Hilltop	10
Revivalist Family	10
Dear Phil	18
Revivalist Pulpit	19
World Pulse	21
Student Focus	21
President-Elect Rodney Loper	23

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COVER: Ruth Avery joins her grandchildren around the Christmas tree. Photo by Shane Muir and Kevin Moser.

the president's page



HOLINESS IN ECLIPSE Part 2

by Michael R. Avery, President

It has been over two decades since Keith Drury gave an address at a Christian Holiness Partnership luncheon entitled *The Holiness Movement is Dead*. The response to his remarks was swift and partisan. Significant voices in the mainstream movement quickly agreed with Drury and published responses: *Why the Holiness Movement Died*, Douglass Crossman (*Arminian Magazine*); *Why the Holiness Movement Died*, Richard Taylor (*God's Revivalist*); *Why the Holiness Movement is Dead*, Kenneth Collins (*Asbury Theological Journal*).

Many voices that were less mainstream and more conservative viewed his remarks as either unduly pessimistic or grossly exaggerated. The controversy that stormed on both sides of the argument following his remarks was in retrospect no more than a tempest in a teapot. The more mainstream groups are no more interested in a dynamic holiness message today than they were then. The more conservative groups have maintained a very public embrace of the holiness emphasis, yet lack clear biblical exposition and explanation. What discussion they do give to it often lacks theological depth, biblical insight, and practical human application. This leaves them vulnerable to a holiness message that is more shibboleth than substance. The broader evangelical world is so preoccupied with controversy over social/political issues on the one hand, and its desperate attempt to hold on to an evangelical culture that is increasingly bored with church on the other, that they have little time or energy to pursue holiness as their early fathers did. Hence holiness is still in eclipse.

Holiness is God-taught, Spirit-wrought Christlikeness. If, as the theologians tell us, holiness is the renewal of the image of God within us, then it should not surprise us that holiness lived out in man looks like Christ!

What can be done to restore a proper emphasis on Holiness?

1. We need to reclaim the theological “high ground” of true biblical salvation.

True biblical salvation is renewal in God’s image. It is not just “peace with God and a home in heaven.” Therefore, holiness, not the forgiveness of sin, is the goal of our election and redemption (1 Pet. 1:15-16; 1 Thess. 4:3,7; 5:23; Eph. 1:4; 5:25-26; 2:10; Rom. 12:1; 2 Cor. 7:1). When we come to Christ, our whole nature is changed. We are not “just a sinner saved by grace.” There’s not an old nature and a new nature destined to dogfight for power and control. No, the Bible says we have been born again; we are a brand-new person, we are no longer a sinner as our essential identity. We are not simply a person who gets forgiveness, who gets to go to heaven, who gets the Holy Spirit, who gets a new nature. We are a person who has become someone we were not before. We are now, in terms of our deepest identity, a saint, a child of light, a citizen of heaven—not only positionally, not only judicially, but actually. Becoming a Christian is not just getting something, no matter how wonderful that something may be. It is becoming someone—a holy man or woman who is being conformed to the image of Christ. We have been transformed and are being transformed as we walk in the power of the Spirit and allow the Word of God to dwell in us fully. Salvation is far more than what Christ has saved us *from*, it is also what He has saved us *to*! And the goal is that “*we may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God*” and that “*the very God of peace sanctify [us] wholly; [so that our] your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ*” (Col. 1:28; 4:12; 1 Thess. 5:23).

2. We need to stop apologizing for the language of scriptural holiness.

There was a time when even the culture of the world around us believed in certain high ideals, just as the evangelical world embraced biblical holiness and Christian perfection. Sadly that time has passed. The fallen culture around us has deteriorated to the level that it mocks traditional goodness and scorns any moral path but the one that “leads to perdition.” The Church too has lost its appetite for holiness and instead of “*going on unto perfection*” is embracing what Dallas Willard calls “miserable sinner” Christianity with its gospel of “sin management” where real transformation of life and character have no part of the redemptive message. But this is not the *position*, the *language*, nor the *expectation* of the Bible.

If we are to have any reasonable expectation of people pursuing holiness, then they must believe that personal holiness is not only possible but also expected. It may sound humble to say, “I am a miserable fellow and

cannot obey God as I ought,” but it’s simply not true! Titus 2:11 informs us that “*the grace of God...has appeared to all men, teaching us to say ‘No’ to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.*”

Biblical examples point to both the possibility and the clear expectation of holy living. For instance we are told that Zechariah and Elizabeth “*were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless*” (Luke 1:6). Job, according to God’s own testimony, was “*a blameless and upright man, who feared God and turned away from evil*” (Job 1:8). Paul said of himself, “*You are witnesses, and God also, how holy and righteous and blameless was our conduct toward you*” (1 Thess. 2:10 ESV). Paul often commends the churches and his ministry partners for their obedience and godly example.

God not only calls us to holiness, but also expects us to be holy (1 Thess. 4:7; 1 Pet. 1:15-16). He calls us to be perfect—mature, complete, being brought to an appropriate end, blameless. When a thing is perfect it is as it ought to be. He expects us to stop practicing sin (1 John 3:10). He tells us we are “*set free from sin*” in order to become “*servants to righteousness and holiness*” (Rom. 6). He expects Christians to be marked by virtues like love, joy, and peace rather than vices like fornication, uncleanness, and selfish ambition (Gal. 5).

3. We need a properly balanced holiness that does not pit love against law.

The very heart of holiness is the spirit of love. Love to God and man, says Jesus, is the whole burden of the law. Paul adds that love is the first fruit of the Spirit and without love the would-be Christian is nothing (Gal.5:22; 1 Cor. 13:1-3). However, some Christians make the mistake of treating law and love as if they were mutually exclusive. You must either have a religion of law or one of love. This is out-of-balance with Scripture. To begin with, love is a command of the law (Deut. 6:5; Lev. 19:18; Matt. 22:36-40). So to say the law doesn’t matter is to say that love doesn’t matter. Furthermore, Jesus connects loving Him and communion with the Father with keeping His commandments (John 14:15, 21). Jesus was both law incarnate and love incarnate. To follow His way of self-giving obedient love is holiness in its purest and most perfect expression. (I use the word “law” here in the basic sense of God’s requirements for human lives.)

4. If we want people to take holiness seriously, then we need to stop labeling Christians as “legalistic rule keepers” when they are truly seeking to please God by loving, careful obedience to Scripture.

God has implanted a passion for righteousness deep in every born-again heart. The outworking of this



Letters

TO THE EDITOR

is sincere, careful obedience to what one knows the Bible commands and exhorts us to do. It is normal and healthy for Christians to seek to apply both biblical command as well as principle to the way they live their daily lives. Even a casual reading of the Bible makes clear the expectation that virtue and principle should be lived out in ways that are “*evident to all.*” A serious desire to please God and to walk in all the light of biblical teachings is not legalistic scandal but healthy Christianity! The fear that we will surrender salvation by grace if we stress obedience, righteousness, and holiness is utter nonsense! Rather than mock those who adhere closely to biblical truth, we should emulate them!

However, the Bible also makes it clear that there is a difference in careful obedience to all that the Bible commands and mere rule keeping. Holiness is more than basic morality and niceness. The Pharisees were externally moral, but their hearts were often full of iniquity. It is a very subtle slope we start down when we embrace sanctification by check-list. Check-list holiness is usually highly selective and does not take into account the idols of the heart. It is so much easier to measure the length of my wife’s skirt than it is to measure my likeness to Christ in the inner man. So if we aren’t careful, our holiness becomes “skirt measuring” rather than “image bearing.”

5. We need to make much of Jesus.

Holiness is, to be succinct, God-taught, Spirit-wrought Christlikeness. If, as the theologians tell us, holiness is the renewal of the image of God within us, then it should not surprise us that holiness lived out in man looks like Christ! He is the image of the invisible God (Col. 1:15) and the exact expression of His nature (Heb. 1:3). The whole objective of what God has done for us, and is doing in us, is conformity to the image of His Son (Rom. 8:29). The perfect human example of what it means to be holy is Christ. His love (John 13:34), His humility (Phil. 2:5-8), His obedience (John 6:38; 14:31) and His steadfastness (1 Pet. 4:1-2) show us what holiness in human skin looks like. If we faithfully lift up Jesus—we will faithfully lift up holiness!

Holiness may not be popular in the contemporary church or prominent in contemporary theology, but it is still the priority and passion of our heavenly Father. Hence our mission, our passion, and the ground of our triumph should be to spread scriptural holiness throughout the Church and around the world! ■

Letters should be addressed to the Editorial Office, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202, or emailed to revivalist@gbs.edu. Letters reprinted here do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editor of God’s Revivalist nor those of the administration of God’s Bible School. Names and locations of writers will be withheld at their specific request or at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to edit and condense.

Thank you for the great job with the September *God’s Revivalist* [special issue on Christian Education, K-12]. Thanks to Bro. Avery for coming up with the idea to do a joint endeavor on this issue. I pray that our involvement in this issue was as much of a blessing to GBS as it was to Renewation.

JEFF KEATON, Renewation, CEO & President
Roanoke, VA

Is there any way possible for me to get the holiness catechism of 105 questions that Rachel England talks about in her article in the September issue of *God’s Revivalist*?

CONNIE STEPHENS
Ragland, AL

I will be glad to send you the catechism to make it available to people who are interested. This edition was tailored specifically for our church with appendices explaining the new B.L.A.S.T. class and my ideas for the program. I am updating the book, but thought it would be best to NOT take out the extra information as it may be helpful for others wanting to start their own spiritual training class at their church.

Also, I have had requests from people wanting to know the curriculum I use for the class. I am presently compiling all of that information into a document for sharing with others. I will send more information on curriculum and lessons to those interested.

—Rachel England, Jonestown, PA

***Editor’s Note:* You can access the Holiness Catechism at www.gbs.edu/holiness-catechism. If you wish to contact Rachel directly concerning more information, send your request to kfarmer@gbs.edu and it will be properly forwarded.**

The September *God’s Revivalist* could not have honored a better person. Congratulations, Marcia [Davis]! I have appreciated our friendship down through the years—teaching together, finding “bargains,” going to church together. Great memories!

RUTH ELLEN SMITH TAYLOR
Mexico, MO

These words have been on repeat in my head (and heart) as I anticipate Christmas:

He Made Himself Nothing

by Colleen Chao

He, as in GOD. The Great I Am pressed Himself into nothingness, bound Himself up in mere flesh and blood.

It's beautiful and bewildering. "Nothing" is not attractive to me. I want to be "something." I want love and affirmation and respect and value. I want to feel significant, to make my mark in this world and be remembered well for it.

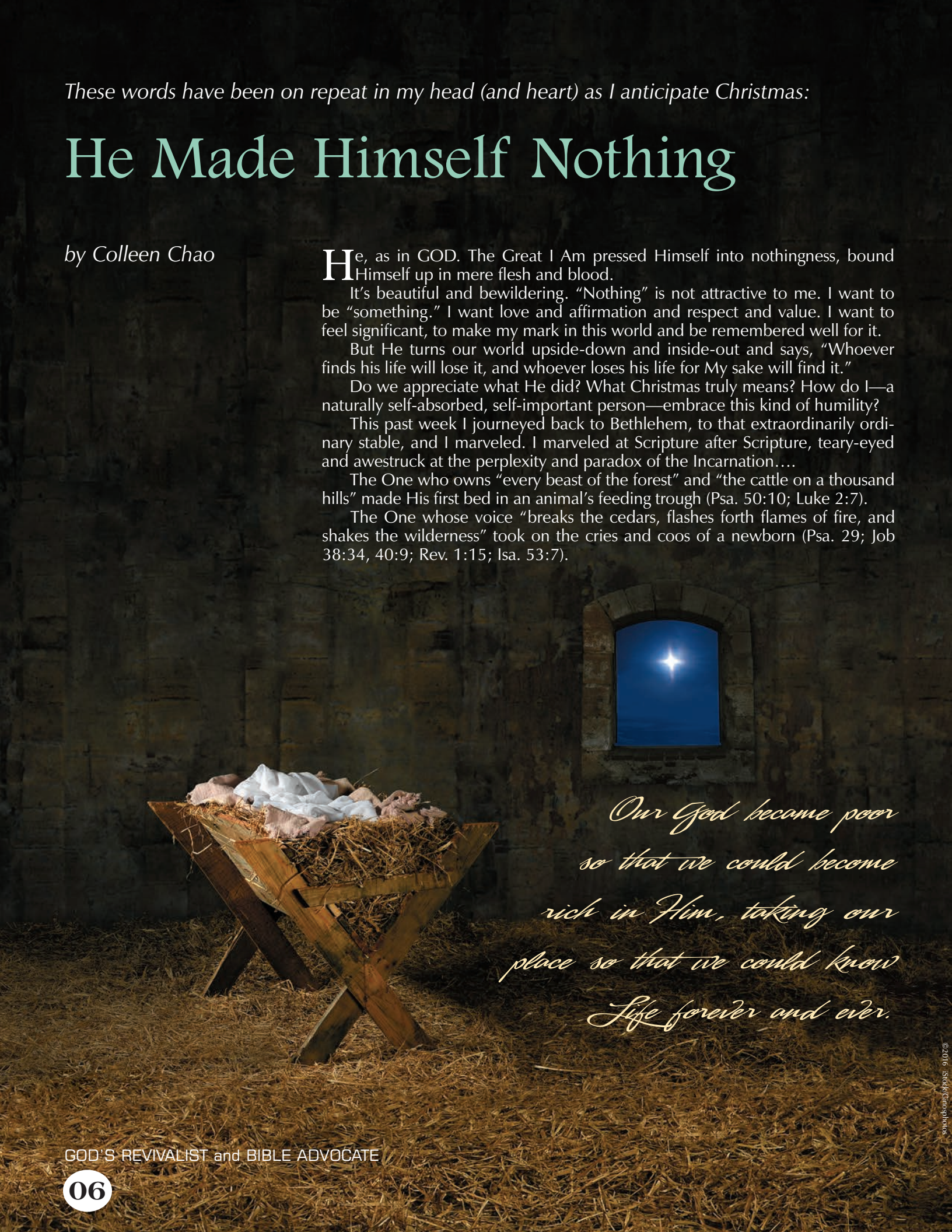
But He turns our world upside-down and inside-out and says, "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."

Do we appreciate what He did? What Christmas truly means? How do I—a naturally self-absorbed, self-important person—embrace this kind of humility?

This past week I journeyed back to Bethlehem, to that extraordinarily ordinary stable, and I marveled. I marveled at Scripture after Scripture, teary-eyed and awestruck at the perplexity and paradox of the Incarnation....

The One who owns "every beast of the forest" and "the cattle on a thousand hills" made His first bed in an animal's feeding trough (Psa. 50:10; Luke 2:7).

The One whose voice "breaks the cedars, flashes forth flames of fire, and shakes the wilderness" took on the cries and coos of a newborn (Psa. 29; Job 38:34, 40:9; Rev. 1:15; Isa. 53:7).



*Our God became poor
so that we could become
rich in Him, taking our
place so that we could know
Life forever and ever.*

The One who rides through the skies in His majesty, who binds the chains of the Pleiades and loosens the cords of Orion, looked up into His star-studded sky through the wonder of a child's eyes (Deut. 33:26; Job 38:31).

The One whose love for His children is "as high as the heavens are above the earth" became the humble recipient of a mother's imperfect love (Psa. 103:11).

The One who alone treads the winepress of wrath, who has "walked in the recesses of the deep," became a toddler who took faltering steps and stumbled and fell as He learned to walk for the very first time (Job 38:16).

The One who is the King of kings and Lord of lords, who rules over the nations and whose "chariots are twice ten thousand, thousands upon thousands," entrusted the first news of His birth to a shabby group of social outcasts (Rev. 19:16; Psa. 47:8, 68:17).

The One "who can number the clouds by wisdom" and numbers the hairs on our heads, and keeps count of our tossing and tears, learned how to count from the beginning: 1–2–3 (Job 38:37; Luke 12:7; Psa. 56:8).

The One who adorns Himself with majesty and dignity; who clothes Himself with glory and splendor; whose appearance is as jasper and carnelian; He let Himself be wrapped in swaddling cloths and "had no form or majesty that we should look at Him, and no beauty that we should desire Him" (Job 40:10; Rev. 4; Isa. 53:2; Luke 2:7).

The One who created all and before whom every knee will bow and every tongue will confess as Lord—He became a misfit, "a root out of dry ground," despised and rejected, "one from whom men hide their faces" (Isa. 53:2-3).

The One who fights for us, who daily bears our burdens, who is "the Shield of our help," became a helpless babe, a child utterly dependent on human parents (Ex. 14:14; Psa. 68:19; Deut. 33:29).

The One whose fame leaves men prostrate and speechless became the child of scandal (a virgin mother, indeed!), the subject of hushed (and not-so-hushed) conversations and chastising sideways glances (Psa. 19; Dan. 7; Rev. 4).

Dear one, our God became poor so that we could become rich in Him. He set His gaze upon the cruel cross, "He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death," taking our place so that we could know Life forever and ever.

He became like us so that we could become like Him. "Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace among those with whom He is pleased!" ■

Colleen Chao writes about her journey from singleness to marriage to motherhood, and celebrating God's faithfulness in every season of life. She describes herself as a former book editor, English teacher, and youth leader. This article appeared on the True Woman blog at www.reviveourhearts.com.



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THOUGHTS

for the quiet hour

by Sonja Vernon

LIVING EXPECTANTLY

"And there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, ...righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him.... At that very moment [Anna] came up and began giving thanks to God, and continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem."—Luke 2:25,38 NASB

The temple was crowded. Priests, Levites, and masses of the devout milled about the outer court. A constant hum of voices blended with the bleating of sheep, lowing of bulls, and chirping of sacrificial birds. Into that hubbub walked Mary, Joseph, and their new baby—a normal couple bearing a small bundle to present to the Lord. Nothing set them apart from the other families with infants awaiting presentation. But Simeon and Anna noticed this couple and the special child they carried. Two of God's servants were ready and waiting for this baby boy. My guess is that many Israelites believed their Messiah would come someday, but they became immersed in the daily reality of Roman rule and zealots that came and went. They were looking for what they believed a Messiah should be, but precious few were so in tune with the Holy Spirit that they actually recognized Him when He came.

What about us? Are we living expectantly, looking for God to keep His promises? Are we in tune enough with the Holy Spirit that we will recognize the answers when they come? This Christmas season, I challenge all of us to live ready to see God act, to cultivate communion with His Holy Spirit. The same God that came in human form so long ago is alive and active today! Are we ready? ■

Sonja Vernon is Dean of Women at God's Bible School and College.

DECEMBER 2016

07

**Plan ahead,
set realistic
goals and
expectations,
and make the
time with
friends and
family truly
meaningful.**

When we think of the holidays, our minds instinctively drift toward idealistic thoughts of festive decorations, fun-filled family gatherings, and joyful celebrations. But in reality, the holidays often mean dread, anxiety, and sadness to many. More than likely, we feel an increase in responsibilities, an over-abundance of activities, and a general feeling of being out of control. In many cases, this is because we fill our holiday schedule with an overwhelming number of activities that really aren't necessary. So here are some ideas on how to reduce holiday stress.

PLAN AHEAD

Sounds simple doesn't it? But experts report that one of the top reasons for holiday stress is the lack of proper planning. In addition to

poor planning, there is also the problem of procrastination, which not only leads to last minute, urgent preparation, but can also be expensive. When people don't have a plan, and/or when they wait until the last minute, they not only lose efficiency, but also tend to act more impulsively. This leads to fewer choices, frantic decision making, and a tendency to spend more money. Overspending not only creates a problem during the holiday season, but can also be the source for additional stress in the following months because of strained budgets.

SET REASONABLE EXPECTATIONS

Don't let Hollywood or Madison Avenue set the tone for what you think your holiday season should look like. We often enter



REDUCING holiday STRESS

by Gary Lee

into the holidays with unreasonable expectations, fueled by idealistic perfectionism. Many people get into trouble when they think this year's holiday season has to be better than all their previous holidays, or at least equal to what the neighbors, friends, and other family members are currently experiencing. Set a holiday tone that suits your family culture by introducing traditions that turn into life-long memories. The holidays can be meaningful without being perfect.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

Frantic shopping, late night wrapping, fast food diets, and an over-abundance of holiday treats and sweets can quickly create an unhealthy condition, contributing to both physical and emotional stress on your body. Fatigue, improper diet, and lack of exercise can weaken your immune system, which can ultimately lead to short term illness and long term health problems. Finding balance is the key. Don't let all your focus be on everyone else's needs. Take the time and make the effort to care for yourself as well.

ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR FEELINGS

Lost loved ones, estranged relationships, dysfunctional families, and unhappy memories can all come crashing in on us during the holidays. If faced with strained family relationships, try to establish agreement with others to set aside difficult issues so the holidays can be enjoyed. Plan on dealing with conflicts at other times of the year so they don't fester and grow out of control. Additionally, be tolerant and understanding of others who may be upset due to loss, loneliness, or distress.

REACH OUT

For many of us, the holidays evoke feelings of sadness, depression, loneliness, and isolation. In such cases, seek out the company

of others. Engage in the community through religious or social events, volunteer, or visit with friends and family. If sadness or depression is pervasive throughout most of your days, seek medical attention or counseling as needed.

LEARN TO SAY NO

The holidays are a time when it is easy to become overcommitted. The schedule will already be strained with special programs, activities, and parties. Additional demands may also arise from the workplace, and can be especially troubling when conflicting with other holiday plans. The key here is

to prioritize what is truly important, especially with issues over which you have some level of control.

The holiday season can be not only enjoyable, but also memorable, if managed properly. Plan ahead, set realistic goals and expectations, and make the time with friends and family truly meaningful. ■

Gary Lee is a retired Cincinnati Police Department Captain. He is a licensed professional counselor with the Counseling Alliance in Cincinnati, OH, focusing on individuals and couples suffering from depression, anxiety, trauma, addictions, and posttraumatic stress.



The Gift Wrap and the Jewel

by Wanda B. Goines

I looked in the mirror and what did I see
But a little old lady peering back at me
With bags and sags and wrinkles and wispy white hair,
And I asked my reflection, "How did you get there?
You once were straight and vigorous,
And now you're stooped and weak,
When I tried so hard to keep you from becoming an antique."
My reflection's eyes twinkled and she solemnly replied,
"You're looking at the gift wrap and not the jewel inside—
A living gem and precious of unimagined worth—
Unique and true, the real you, the only you on earth.
The years that spoil your gift wrap with other things more cruel
Should purify and strengthen and polish up that jewel.
So focus your attention on the inside, not the out;
On being kinder, wiser, more content, and more devout.
Then when your gift wrap's stripped away
Your jewel will be set free, to radiate God's glory throughout eternity!" ■

Wanda B. Goines is a 93-year-old from Oregon. She wrote this poem on aging and what is really important. A friend and care provider filmed her reciting it about a year ago. You can view that at [youtube.com/watch?v=2YxCR2a-sxl](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2YxCR2a-sxl).



October. Thirteen students were trained to present sketch board messages to children or adults. Most of the eight students who learned a message for adults, made presentations on the University of Cincinnati campus. These students have returned to the university to present sketch board messages at least twice since the week of the campaign. They plan to make this a regular ministry since they have had such a good response there.



“We gave the sketch board message at UC and many people listened to what we had to say. We were able to strike up some very good conversations about Christ and why He is the true Savior and the only way to make it to heaven. I couldn’t help but feel that, because of these conversations, maybe we will meet some of those people we spoke with in heaven, and they will tell us how we planted seeds in their life. Truly exciting business!” (Nick Jaymes)

“My heart is full as I rejoice with the angels in heaven that I have a new sister in Christ. I was able to

OPEN AIR CAMPAIGN

GBS sponsored an Open Air Campaign during the third week of



While adult messages were presented during the noon hour, either at the UC campus or at Cincinnati’s downtown Fountain Square, children’s messages were presented in various local neighborhoods. The “Bible clubs” included singing, prayer, a game, the message, and one-on-one spiritual counseling.

A couple of the students who participated in these events have commented as follows:

REVIVALIST FAMILY

On these pages, we feature items about GBS alumni, significant events scheduled throughout the “Revivalist Family,” and brief news notes from across the Holiness Movement.

DEATHS

Janet L. (Coulter) Brosius, 70, of Kearneysville, WV, went home to be with Jesus on October 19, 2016. Born in 1946 in Huntingdon, PA, she was the daughter of the late Wilbur and Grace Coulter. The family attended the Shadyside Free Methodist Church, and it was there that Janet met fellow parishioner Ray Brosius, Jr. After high school graduation, she attended God’s Bible School and College, and so did Ray. They were married June 26, 1965. While working on their degrees, Ray was on the GBS faculty teaching science and math



(1967-68), and Janet served as a bookkeeper for Registrar Fern Bair, and as a secretary to Academic Dean Leslie Wilcox. Both received their degrees, Ray in 1967 (ThB and BA), and Janet in 1968 (ThB). After GBS, they pastored in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Janet worked as a bookkeeper and also as office manager at Mumaw & Vickers CPAs in Charles Town, WV; she loved her job and clientele. While Ray is no longer pastoring full time, he is teaching math and science in a Christian school. Janet will be sadly missed by her husband of 51 years; her children, Sharon, Kathy, and Ray III; five granddaughters, Savannah, Sydney, Sierra, Ashley, and Amy; siblings, Carol (GBS 1970), Duane, and Miriam; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. Funeral services were held at the Fellowship Church of the Brethren, Martinsburg, WV, and officiated by Ray Brosius, Jr. Interment followed at the Pleasant View Memory Gardens.

lead Tatiana to Jesus today when we went out for open air ministry. It was an amazing experience as I cried with her and told her all about Jesus' love." (Rachel Klotz)

FRIEND AND SIBLING DAY

Friend and Sibling Day took place on October 25-26. This is a time when students invite family and friends to experience firsthand a typical day at GBS—staying in the



dorm, eating in the cafeteria, attending classes, playing sports in the gym, and hanging out in the

Commons or snack bar. Over 20 prospective students attended. Some comments were: "People are friendly, I really like all of the improvements around campus, and I had an amazing hostess" (Kimberly Dickinson); "We had a lot of laughs, I got a glimpse into what the overall routine will look like. There is a really homey feel on campus! It was a good time!" (Tyler Vandervort); and "Their food is good!" (Matthew Whittaker).

YOUTH CHALLENGE

Nathan Dahler, Director of Enrollment Services, and Kent Stetler, Student Recruiter, represented GBS at Youth Challenge 2016, mingling with nearly 1,000 young people, pastors, and youth leaders. GBS musical groups Proclaim (mixed quartet) and Grace Trio sang. Additionally, Nathan was a featured musician and Kent, who is also a member of the Youth Challenge

executive board, helped with services and social media, and hosted the afterglow on Friday evening.

HARVEST PARTY

The annual Harvest Party was held on October 26. Several staff families and about 100 students enjoyed a bonfire, hayrides, volleyball, and hot soup. The William Justice family hosted the event at their farm on the outskirts of Cincinnati. The student government organized the party and oversaw the cooking and clean up. ➡



Brenda L. (Dyson) Quakenbush, 66, of Galloway, OH, passed away surrounded by her loving family on October 26, 2016. She was born in 1950 to Howard and Dorothy (Fox) Dyson in St. Louis, MO. Brenda attended GBS (1968-70) and it was there she met Kenneth Quakenbush (1968-69). He comments, "What better way to prepare you for Christian service than finding that perfect 'help meet' while spending time learning about Christian service." They were married on August 1, 1969.



Brenda was a wonderful wife, an incredible mother, grandmother, sister, and friend. She attended the West Broad Church of the Nazarene. She loved studying the Word of God. Her testimony will be missed. Brenda is survived by Kenneth, her husband of 47 years; two children, Deborah and Darrell; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and two brothers, Steven and

Richard. Brenda's loss will be felt deeply by many other friends and family. The funeral service was held at Newcomer Funeral Home, Grove City, OH, with interment following at Grove City Cemetery.

NOTICE

After eight years as General Superintendent, **Dr. Jo Anne Lyon** (HS, '58) has changed direction in her service to The Wesleyan Church. The title of General Superintendent Emerita was conferred on her at General Conference (2016), and she was named Ambassador of The Wesleyan Church by newly-elected General Superintendent Dr. Wayne Schmidt. Finally, Dr. David Wright, president of Indiana Wesleyan University, stated that Dr. Lyon would serve as interim vice-president of Wesley Seminary for one year. ■





**THANKS,
DON DAVISON!**

Don, tell our readers what is new in your life.

For nearly 29 years it has been my deep honor to serve my alma mater in Public Relations. However, for some time I have had a growing sense that the calling on my life to serve in the advancement of

God's Bible School is transitioning to a new passion. I believe God is giving me a heartfelt desire to provide direct spiritual care—to get into the “trenches” of ministry.

As I prayerfully sought the will of God, I was offered a position in which I would receive Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) training to become a hospital chaplain along with the opportunity to provide intensive pastoral care to hospital patients, families, and staff.

When will all of this take place?

Actually, the transition has already begun. With approval of GBS, I began CPE training in September. However, I also have continued to provide continuity in serving the many churches and pastors by scheduling PR for the current school year.

How long will this last?

This transitional period will last through December 19. During that time, I will also help with the orientation and “hand-off” of my PR responsibilities.

You know that you will be missed around GBS. You have a substantial legacy here.

Yes. I am very grateful for all the wonderful years God gave me and my family at GBS. At the same time, I am sad that we will no longer be intimately involved in the daily work here at GBS. I will miss it.

I deeply respect the powerful leadership legacy of President Avery. I am also excited for GBS and its future under President-elect Loper. I continue to be compelled by our mission and students and the difference GBS is making in God's kingdom. I love the school deeply and my only motivation in moving forward is because of God's call on my life to do so.

Don, for the entire GBS family, let me assure you that while you leave us to answer this call, you will always remain in our hearts and prayers. You will continue be part of our family. We look forward to your visiting us often. —KF ■

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CAMPUS IMPROVE

Because of the generous supporters of God's Bible School and College, we continue to maintain and to improve the properties necessary to further our mission. Projects that we have completed include the following:

MCNEILL MUSIC HALL

Major renovation has been underway to restore the appearance of McNeill Music Hall to its original design. A strikingly beautiful new porch graces the building, along with all new windows with arched tops to match the originals [1]. The trim has been painted, and plans are in place to install new central heat and air conditioning. New landscaping dresses up the outside of the building. The overhead wires from the Knapp Memorial Building to the McNeill Music Hall were moved underground, giving Young Street a cleaner, more "open" appearance.

NEW ADVANCEMENT OFFICES

Office renovations have added space for current and future employees and departments. A portion of the second floor of the Administration Building was reconfigured to house the new advancement offices [2]. Maintenance technician Cordell Replogle custom built the furniture for two of the new rooms [3].

ANOTHER NEW SIGN

The old sign at the south end of Young Street was removed, and a new sign is being built to match the one on the north end [4].



CONSTRUCTION! CONSTRUCTION!



RENOVATIONS TO VARIOUS APARTMENTS

With newly installed carpet and fresh paint, the entrances to three of our apartment buildings offer their residents and visitors a more inviting welcome. The Tiffany House [5] received this treatment, along with newly painted porch and doors.

CONCRETE WORK

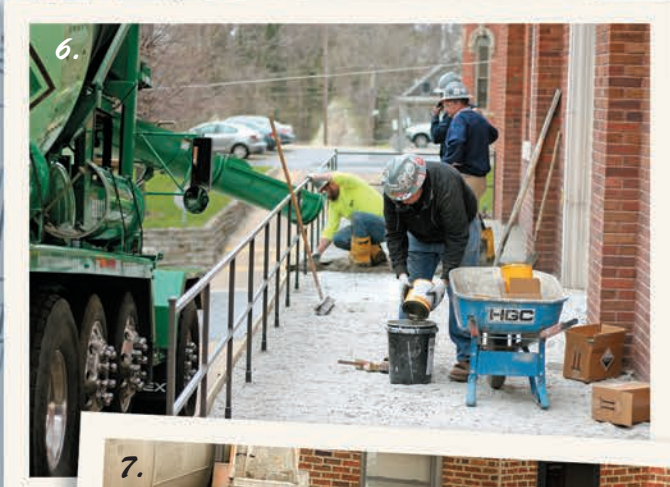
The deteriorating concrete outside the south entrance to the chapel was replaced and coated with a long-lasting waterproof coating [6]. This not only preserves a safe walking area but also protects the chapel's heating and air conditioning equipment which is housed underneath.

The old steps to the secondary campus entrance of the Revivalist Memorial Building (women's dorm) were removed and new steps poured. [7]

RETAINING WALL & ASPHALT WORK

A retaining wall behind the Allan Clarence Strong Residence Hall fell and has been replaced with a wall that not only looks great, but, according to the contractor, will still be standing 100 years from now [8] [9]. New fences were installed to replace those that were damaged when the retaining wall collapsed. The adjacent parking area was repaired, and, along with the driveway, the asphalt was sealed and striped.

The blacktop on the main campus area and the school-owned portion of Young Street was also repaired, sealed, and striped.



ON! CONSTRUCTION! CON

FACADE WORK ON ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Necessary structural repairs were made to the eastern portion of the Administration Building around the Schmul Chapel and Revivalist Press entrances [10]. New lighting was installed and new awnings were placed over the external doors [11].

NEW PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE

To provide housing for President-elect Loper and his family, 1844 Josephine Street was renovated to become the new "President's House." This renovation included new concrete for the driveway [12] and sidewalk [13], and new heating and air conditioning. The interior living area is complete [14], while continuing work is taking place in the basement, exterior, and garage.

STUDENT CENTER MAIN ENTRANCE

One of the most notable changes can be seen upon entering the lobby of the Miller-Deets Student Center, which, along with the adjacent hallway, sports a completely new look [15][16][17]. Attractive walk-off carpet tiles have replaced the original Congoleum, and faux laminate wood covers the hall and office floors. Enrollment Services has moved to its new offices on the lobby level, which are accessed by a new glass entrance door.



ONSTRUCTION

CTION



MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

To improve heating and cooling efficiency, a new air-conditioner was installed to service the Information Technology offices on the third floor of the Administration Building, and duct work was rerouted on the second floor.

Work continues in order to make the entrance to all buildings access-card controlled. The Student Center is now completed, and the Knapp Memorial Building is undergoing the same process. In addition, security cameras have been installed in some campus locations.

COSTS

Campus Administrator Richard Miles estimates that the work discussed thus far has cost GBS at least \$450,000 (including \$130,000 for McNeill Music Hall renovations). ▀



OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE

Your financial partnership makes all of this possible. The “Revivalist Family” is made up of faithful “GBS supporters” who have stood behind us and made it possible for us to move ahead for over a century. So many of you have been faithful in giving—and every gift directly or indirectly supports all students on this campus and impacts every future ministry to which God has called them.

A gift of \$25, \$50, \$100, or \$500 would mean a great deal to the school right now. Gifts of any amount would be so much appreciated and go a long way in meeting the needs that are facing us at this time.

Maybe you would like to give a significant year-end gift that not only helps GBS, but could also benefit you at tax time.

To make a donation by check, send it to 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202. To donate by credit card or give online, visit www.gbs.edu/givenow; or you may call the school at 1-800-486-4637 and ask for the Advancement Office.

Thank you for standing with us!

President Michael R. Avery

President-Elect Rodney Loper

Dear Phil



THE HOLY SPIRIT'S ROLE IN REVEALING TRUTH

I have been taught that the Holy Spirit's illumination is necessary to understand Scripture, but I am rather uncertain about how this works. Does the Spirit arbitrarily choose to reveal things? Is His revelation contingent upon something I do? —Brandon

Dear Brandon,

Let's begin by distinguishing revelation and illumination. There are two types of revelation: general and special. General revelation refers to information about God that we learn from creation (Rom. 1:20-21) and from our consciences (Rom. 2:14-15). Special revelation refers to information given by God through His Spirit to us about God and His will which is authoritative for all people at all times (1 Cor. 2:6-10). Scripture is special revelation. Revelation illumines (Psa. 119:105), but the Spirit's work of revelation is not the same as His work of illumination. As far as we know, the Spirit ceased giving revelation when the apostles died. Illumination, on the other hand, is the term we use to refer to the Spirit's role in helping people see truth and its implications. The Spirit's work of illumination has at least three aspects.

First, the Spirit illumines sinners to spiritual reality. In 1 Corinthians 2:13-14, Paul talks about the necessity of the Spirit's help for sinners to see and know the wisdom of the gospel. Imagine that you were invited to a celebration. At the door, you're given a note which reads,

"Welcome! Please come in and join the feast." When you walk in, a banquet table is set, places are available, people appear to be eating, but you can't see any food. None. Not on people's plates, nor anywhere on the table. Did you misunderstand the note? You reread it. It says, "Join the feast." That's a fairly common expression for eating. But how do you eat if there isn't any food?! At that point, you show your note to someone at the table and ask, "Is this a joke?" But the person says, "Sit down and dig in! The food is amazing!" Now you're thinking, either they're nuts or I'm nuts. I'm pretty sure I was in my right mind when I walked in here. It must be them.

This is the way the gospel sounds to the unsaved without the Spirit's illumination. It isn't that they don't understand the meaning. It just sounds like foolishness (1 Cor. 1:18, 23). Talk about crucifixion or blood atonement or living for an unseen Savior is judged to be absurd (1 Cor. 2:14). Why? Because they can't see the spiritual reality that is being talked about (2 Cor. 4:4). Without their spiritual eyes illumined (Heb. 6:4; 10:32), the wisdom of God seems foolish.

Second, the Spirit illumines all believers to certain foundational truths. First John 2:18-27 speaks of an "anointing" which abides in us and teaches us the essential truths of the gospel. That anointing is the Holy Spirit. Some have misread 1 John 2:27 and concluded they don't need to be taught by anyone other than the Holy Spirit, but that contradicts both the purpose of John's letter (1 John 5:13) and what Scripture says elsewhere (Eph. 4:11-12; 1 Tim. 6:2). In context, the "all things" which the Spirit teaches believers includes that Jesus is the Messiah (1 John 2:22), that the Father and the Son are distinct persons (1 John 2:23-24), and that we should abide in the message we have heard from the beginning (1 John 2:24), i.e., that we should love one another (1 John 2:10-11; 3:11).

Third, the Spirit illumines believers to the meaning and significance of God's Word. When God spoke His Word through the Holy Spirit (2 Pet. 1:19-21), He used human languages. Jesus actually chided people for not using logic to understand Scripture (Matt. 12:5; Mark 12:10, 26). From these two facts, I conclude that God expects believers to use the normal tools of language (context, grammar, word meaning) and logic (laws of non-contradiction, excluded middle, identity) to understand His Word. In fact, Paul encourages careful, diligent study of Scripture as the proper path to truth (2 Tim. 2:15; cf. Acts 17:11).

How the Holy Spirit interfaces with the tools of language and logic, and whether we can identify specific instances of illumination will be covered in my next column. ■

Blessings,
Philip

A. Philip Brown II is a member of the faculty in the Division of Ministerial Education at God's Bible School and College.

pbrown@gbs.edu



WHY JESUS CAME: A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE

by Allan P. Brown, Chair
GBS Division of Ministerial Education

Christmas should be a day of GREAT JOY, especially for Christians. The angels viewed Jesus' coming as a time of joyous celebration (Luke 2:10). And we are privileged to share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men.

Christmas is a day of gift-giving. It all began when God sent us His Christmas present—special delivery! His present to us was a love-gift. He gave us Jesus, His only begotten Son. Jesus is the best Christmas present anyone could receive!

But why did God send us His Son? Here are 13 scriptural reasons to help us get started answering this question. I am sure that there are many more reasons, but let's start with these.

Reason 1: The fullness of time had come and the prophecies promising the coming Messiah were to be fulfilled.

"But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons" (Gal. 4:4-5).

Four thousand years of history had passed since the first promise given in the Garden of Eden. Looking back, we can see circumstances that may have played a part in the "fullness of time." There was relative peace under Roman rule. The Romans had built roads that allowed movement from one end of the known world to the other. Also, Greek and Latin were com-

mon languages across thousands of miles and hundreds of people groups. These circumstances aided the spread of the gospel.

Reason 2: Jesus came to do the will of the Father who sent Him.

"For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me" (John 6:38).

God is not willing that any should perish, and Jesus came to provide atonement for sins.

Reason 3: Jesus came to be the Savior of the world.

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11).

"And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world" (1 John 4:14).

"And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world" (John 12:47).

Reason 4: Jesus came to reveal the Father.

"No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him [NIV—"made him known"; NAU—"explained Him"] (John 1:18).

"Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?" (John 14:8-9).

Jesus claimed to speak only the words the Father told Him to speak, and to do only the works the Father wanted Him to do (John 14:10). The writer of the letter to the Hebrews says that Jesus is the brightness of God's glory and the "express image of his person" (Heb. 1:3). Jesus also said, "One who looks at me is seeing the one who sent me" (John 12:45).

Jesus, in His attitude, actions, and words, reflects exactly the person and character of the Father.

Reason 5: Jesus came to redeem His people from their sins.

"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins" (Mat. 1:21).

This promise is focusing on the Jews. Jesus came to provide spiritual salvation for the Jewish people and

Paul tells us that there is coming a day when all Israel shall be saved (Rom. 11:26). That day is spoken of by Ezekiel who tells us that God will bring the Jewish people out of the countries wherein they are scattered, "with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out" (Eze. 20:34).

On that day, he will purge from the Jewish people every rebel and those who transgress against Him, and bring the remainder of the Jewish people into the bond of the covenant (Eze. 20:35-38).

Reason 6: Jesus came to show all people how much God loves them.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

"But God commendeth [demonstrates] his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8).

Reason 7: Jesus came to provide an example for all His followers of how to live.

"For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth" (1 Pet. 2:21-22).

"He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked" (1 John 2:6).

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 2:5).

Reason 8: Jesus came to seek and to save that which is lost and call sinners to repentance.

"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10).

"When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (Mark 2:17).

"I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (Luke 5:32).

Reason 9: Jesus came to shed His blood, suffer, and die for our sins so He could become the captain of our salvation and bring "many sons unto glory."

"But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings" (Heb. 2:9-10).

"And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world" (1 John 2:2).

Reason 10: Jesus came to provide the means whereby redeemed humans could be adopted into God's family and become children of God and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ.

"The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together" (Rom. 8:16-17).

Reason 11: Jesus came to establish His Church, which is His spiritual body.

"And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all" (Eph. 1:22-23).

Reason 12: Jesus came to show us how to live a holy life through the indwelling and filling of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

"But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy" (1 Pet. 1:15-16).

Reason 13: Jesus came to ready a bride.

"Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God" (Rev. 19:7-9).

"And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife" (Rev. 21:9).

Conclusion

As you join with others in worship at this Christmas season, let's praise God for the gift of His Son! Let's thank Jesus for coming! You might wish to review this list as you pray and express your thankfulness. May the God of comfort, hope, and peace fill you with all joy and peace in believing at this Christmas season! ■



student focus

RESPECTED SCIENTIST BELIEVES THE UNIVERSE WAS DESIGNED

A world renown scientist has concluded that “we are in a world made by rules created by an intelligence.” Michio Kaku, one of the developers of String Theory, has proposed a theory that he calls “primitive semi-radius tachyons,” which will allow “us to unify all the forces of nature.” His conclusion? “To me it is clear that we exist in a plan which is governed by rules that were created, shaped by a universal intelligence and not by chance.”

RELIGION GOOD FOR THE U.S. ECONOMY

Religious groups contribute \$1.2 trillion to the U.S. economy, more than the top 10 tech companies combined. Plus, the bulk of their resources go to helping the poor and suffering. Although the larger culture promotes a negative view of religion in society, it is good to know that the numbers give clear evidence to the contrary. The question is not IF religion is important, but HOW MUCH it is important. A presentation of the study can be watched at: [youtube.com/watch?v=KV7gzY61Olw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KV7gzY61Olw).

MORE BIBLICAL MOSAICS FOUND IN GALILEE

Archaeologists excavating at the site of a fifth-century syna-

gogue in Huqoq, an ancient Jewish village near the Sea of Galilee, unearthed two mosaics depicting biblical scenes. One was a mosaic of Noah’s ark which included pairs of various animals as described in Genesis. The other mosaic was of the parting of the Red Sea and featured Pharaoh’s soldiers drowning with their horses and chariots. The archaeological team removed the mosaics from the site for conservation and study. A previously discovered mosaic from the site that depicts Samson carrying the gate of Gaza on his shoulders (Judges 16:3) is on display at Kibbutz Ginosar, on the shores of the Sea of Galilee.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS FIND NO EVIDENCE FOR GAY GENE

Two scholars at Johns Hopkins University released a three-part report concluding that there is not sufficient evidence to prove homosexuals and transgenders are born in that condition—in other words, there is no “gay gene.” Authors Dr. Lawrence Mayer, an epidemiologist trained in psychiatry, and Dr. Paul McHugh, a prominent American psychiatrist, also recognize a correlation between same-gender attraction and sexual abuse as a child and emphasize that sexuality is fluid—which means homosexuals can change. For more information, see *The New Atlantis: A Journal of Technology and Society* (Number 50, Fall 2016). ■

PRILIA NARESWARI grew up in a secular home in Indonesia. God led her to a church where the members modeled Christianity and Prilia made the decision to follow Christ. Just days before she was to start college, God called her to go abroad to study the Bible. She told God it was impossible because of two things: her family’s dream to see her have a good job and the fact that she didn’t have the necessary finances. “But God blessed me with miracle after miracle. The first was that He changed my father’s heart to let his firstborn go to a Bible college.”

While at GBS, she has learned to focus on Jesus rather than comparing herself to others, and to put her faith in God instead of relying on her own ability. Prilia’s ministry dreams are to be a missionary while teaching English, to work with persecuted churches, and to be involved in children’s ministry and music ministry. She defines success as “when I obey God unconditionally, without a grumbling attitude.” ■

Seventy-five percent of our students receive some form of financial aid which enables them to attend GBS. If you would like to support students with financial needs, you may send a gift to:

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ALUMNI IN ACTION

Dr. John Oziri (BA '87) continues work in his home country of Nigeria—holding clinics on medical mission trips, building chapels, or planning a new Christian school (International Christian Academy).



Some situations are interesting. For example, one patient cared for was 104 years old—and she was brought to the clinic by her 79-

year-old daughter! He reports that they received a real blessing from the woman. Dr. John is also helping teach in both the West Africa Theological Seminary (Lagos, Nigeria) and Calvary College of Theology (Port Harcourt, Nigeria).

Janna (Hooker) Cressman (BA '01), husband Wesley, and their daughter Ella were approved by the Hope International Missions executive board to begin preparations for a move to Honduras.



Their primary ministry will be focused on education, children's ministry, and leadership training. The Cressmans are now

in language school and hope to bring professional training and years of experience to Honduras as they weigh the possibilities of opening a Christian day school there. ■



Michael R. Avery

SCHOLARSHIP FOR LEADERS

The Alumni Executive Council is extremely pleased with the progress of this exciting project. Would you prayerfully consider joining those who have already contributed to the Michael R. Avery Scholarship for Leaders in honor of President Avery and his outstanding legacy?

N. Keith Waggoner
Alumni Council President

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THE REAL COST OF WHISTLES

by *President-Elect Rodney Loper*

Benjamin Franklin learned one of his most important lessons when he was seven years old and saw another boy blowing a whistle. He was so charmed by its sound that he gave the boy all the money in his pockets for it. Young Franklin, delighted with his new possession, blew the whistle happily all over the house. But his satisfaction was cut short when his siblings informed him that he had forked out more money than the whistle was worth—four times as much money!

Franklin recalled, “The reflection gave me more chagrin than the whistle gave me pleasure.” However, this lesson was helpful to him, because, as he said, “Often, when I was tempted to buy some unnecessary thing, I said to myself, ‘Don’t give too much for the whistle.’”

Whistles abound in our material world, taking many shapes and forms. Given the opportunity, we could likely give a list of our perceived materials to avoid—but in pointing out the folly of others, we many times fail to see what we are clutching to our chest.

We must be careful not to buy into the false estimate of things, and in so doing pay dearly for some whistle. Scripture offers a clear warning when it asks, “What shall it profit a man if he gains the whole world (things) and loses his own soul?” In other words, does it really matter how many whistles you own if you miss heaven in your quest to amass them? It is a sad sight when “stuff” takes the place of that which is spiritual. While some stuff is necessary, and even nice, at the end of the day it is still just stuff.

GBS has always been about more than the accumulation of things. Yes, we have buildings and budgets. But the heart of what we have been doing for 116 years cannot be appraised—you cannot put a price tag on biblical education, heart transformation, and ministry-mindedness. That is what we are about—that is the mission that we have been true to since the school’s beginning. As the transition of leadership occurs here at GBS, I promise that this mission will continue. We will continue to train minds, promote a spiritual atmosphere, provide opportunities for hearts to be transformed, and commission students to go into the world to make a difference.

I have evaluated the price of the whistles of this world and they do not compare to the transformation we seek to produce—disciples who love the Lord Jesus with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength. That is worth whatever price you have to pay! ■

God's Bible School & College
wishes you a

Merry Christmas!

