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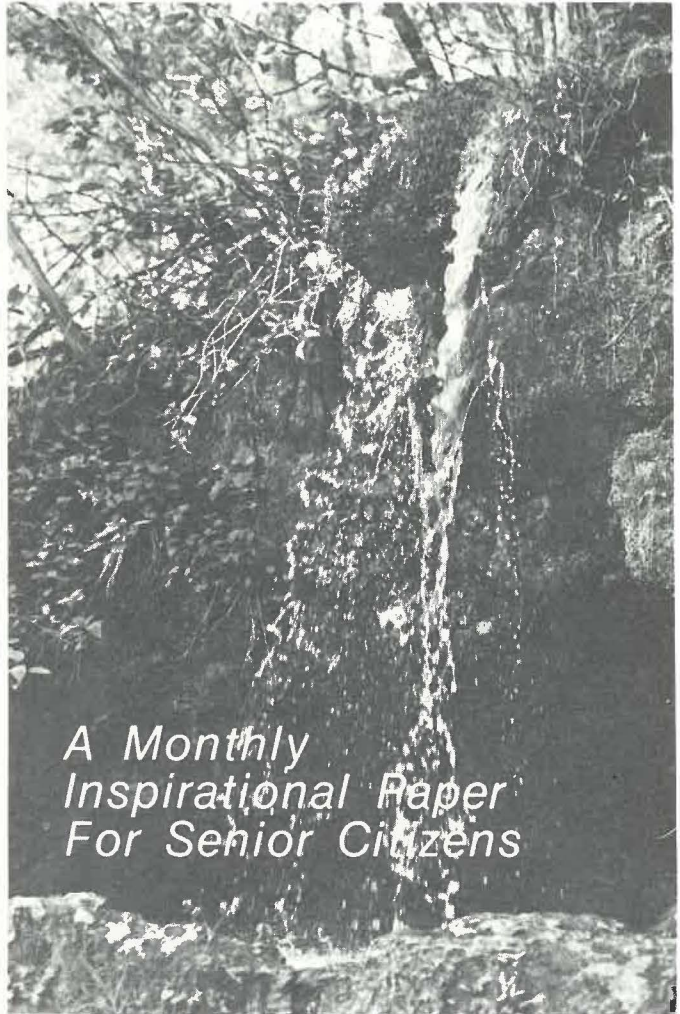
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*A Monthly
Inspirational Paper
For Senior Citizens*

AUGUST 1979

THERE IS A MAN IN YOUR FUTURE

by
Dr. Lehman Strauss



CONCLUSION OF A FOUR PART SERIES

Dr. Strauss has been discussing these past few months the Man in your future, Jesus Christ, whose name is called Wonderful in Isaiah 9:6. Taking the concept of "Wonderful", Dr. Strauss has developed a series of attributes associated with Christ's deity and how each aspect relates to our future.

The Man in our future will have the accurate records, and in the light of those records we all will be manifested under the bright light of His scrutiny. He will not be unfair; He will not be harsh; He will not lack understanding of our weaknesses, problems and difficulties. But He is the only Man who can rightly determine the sincerity and genuineness of our efforts. He only qualifies to judge the worthiness or worthlessness of life's labors. All this is very solemn; it is very sobering.

Think of that sacred moment when your life's work is ended, when all opportunity to serve your Lord and Saviour on earth is gone forever. What will you say when you stand before Him? Encouraged by the prospect of facing Christ, Paul said, "Wherefore we labor, that, whether present or absent, (i.e., as ready to die or to live), we may be accepted (or acceptable) of Him (II Corinthians 5:9).

Jesus Christ is in the future of every unsaved person. The Bible has some specific things to say about the sinner's appearance before this Man. You see, what we do with Him in this life determines our eternal destiny. If you have avoided Him, rejected Him, despised Him in this life, you have not gotten rid of Him. You have yet to meet Him in that inescapable confrontation. The sinner does not have a chance of extricating himself from future judgment. For centuries the Devil has been propagating his lie that there is no future punishment. The Bible teaches differently.

In a stark statement of doom the inspired apostle writes, "And I saw a great white

throne...And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works" (Revelation 20:11,12).

Unsaved men and women, summoned to that throne, have no place to hide. John recognizes the Man on the throne as the solemn Judge, that Man in your future, the Lord Jesus Christ. He does not appear in that day as the meek and gentle Jesus. He will not offer Himself then as the Saviour of sinners. He is there to have the last word in the final assize.

All the impenitent, small and great, little known and best known, poor and rich, illiterate and literate, black and white, will be summoned for that final judgment. Earthly distinctions, so noticeable in this life, will be unrecognized then. Not one action in this life, not one work spoken will be unrecorded. Every detail will be on record. What a solemn sight! There are no redeemed persons among that throng. These are those who have never turned to Jesus Christ for salvation.

In December 1927 I first met Jesus Christ. It turned out to be my most unforgettable experience. He saved me, giving me new life, a new outlook and a bright prospect. Life took on a new meaning. And now for fifty-two years He has been my constant Companion. He is the most important person ever to come into my life. And He is the Man in my future. Soon I will see Him face to face. Each day I am "looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13).

"Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22:20).

REFLECTIONS of FAITH

Edited by
Pat Farmwald

Trees

The elm tree lifted its branches
Gracefully up towards the sky.
It housed a nest of robins;
The young were just learning to fly.

Rustling pine trees whispered
So gently in the breeze,
While among the maples,
A brisk wind caressed the leaves.

Two playful chattering squirrels
Around an oak tree raced.
Nearby was a little river
That a weeping willow embraced.

In northern Minnesota woods
Stood birch bark trees so white,
And two fuzzy little bear cubs
Pretended they had a light.

What would this world be
Without the trees God made?
We would have no forests;
Animals and birds would soon fade.

by
Evelyn Nitso

Flowers

There are many kinds of flowers;
Their loveliness we can behold.
They come in various colors,
Ranging from purple to gold.

There are flowers on garden walls,
Roses that are in full bloom.
In spite of all of their thorns,
They add fragrance to any room.

Pansies, hyacinths, violets,
And lilies so very white.
The Lord created each of them,
To make our world more bright.

by
Evelyn Nitso

**Poems used by permission of author.*

Shall Never Thirst

by
Mark J. Highman

The month of August. Hot, sticky, and thirsty. I'm sure you can relate. It just seems like you can do nothing to quench your thirst—at least not in this heat!

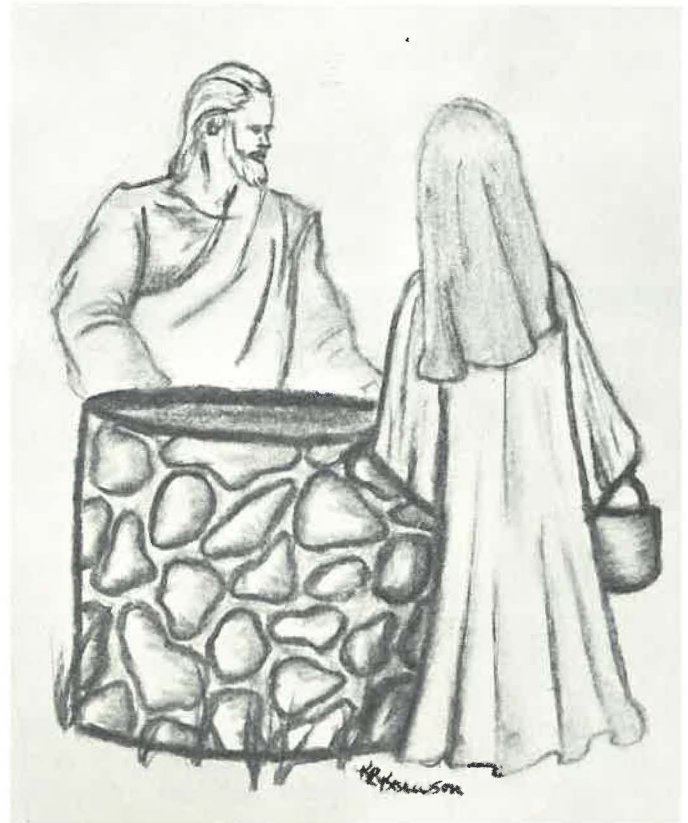
Jesus Christ knew what it meant to be thirsty. In John 4 we read of an incident of Christ asking a woman for water. But what is more interesting is the water Christ offered the woman.

Jesus said, "Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst, but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life!" (John 4:13-14). Let us note three important features of Christ's words.

ONE - Christ said that material water shall make one thirsty again. Yes, it quenches your thirst for a while, but not all day or until tomorrow. This is the way material things work; have you ever noticed? You might have everything you want, but are you really happy? You have heard of millionaires who have committed suicide because they weren't happy—yet they had anything they wanted at their finger tips. Christ tells us in Matthew 6:19-21 that it is better to lay up treasures in heaven where they are protected and eternal, than on earth where they will be useless in eternity. You can't take it with you, my friend.

TWO - Christ reports that He has something to give men and women that shall bring satisfaction. In this case he used the example of water. The woman assumed this was also materialistic, which is why she said, "Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come here to draw" (v. 15).

What Christ had to offer this woman, and to mankind today, is salvation. This is eternal—this shall never dry up, but shall quench the



thirsty soul. We can look at it this way: Hell is where all unsaved people must go, "Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched" (Mark 9:44-48). Salvation quenches the fire of Hell for the person who accepts Christ as his Saviour, for he now has eternal life with Christ!

THREE - Christ promises a well of water springing up into everlasting life. What this means is two-fold: 1) It is springing up, ever in motion, which bespeaks the actings of grace strong and vigorous. If there be good treasure in our hearts, then we must bring forth good things. 2) It is springing up into everlasting life. This demonstrates the Spirit-filled person, whose aim is eternal life in glory, and a sanctified life on earth. It will continue springing up until it comes to perfection, its ultimate goal to be just like Christ, living with Christ! Isn't this much better water than that of Jacob's well? It surely is!

So what does this say to me? My friend, are you trying to find hope or happiness in money, or in other people, or in your own talents? God says that the things of earth shall all pass away; and then where will you be? The only satisfaction is through Jesus Christ. "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3), but shall be "cast into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Daily Walk Through God's Word

August	Morning Job	Evening Hebrews
1	33, 34	9
2	35, 36	10
3	37, 38	11
4	39, 40	12
5	41, 42	13
	**Psalms	
	Proverbs	James
6	1, 2	1
7	3, 4	2
8	5, 6	3
9	7, 8	4
10	9, 10	5
		I Peter
11	11, 12	1
12	13, 14	2
13	15, 16	3
14	17, 18	4
15	19, 20	5
		II Peter
16	21, 22	1
17	23, 24	2
18	25, 26	3
		I John
19	27, 28, 29	1
20	30, 31	2
	Ecclesiastes	
21	1, 2	3
22	3, 4	4
23	5, 6	5
24	7, 8	II John
25	9, 10	III John
26	11, 12	Jude
	Song of Solomon	Revelation
27	1, 2	1
28	3, 4	2
29	5, 6	3
30	7, 8	4
	Isaiah	
31	1, 2	5

**As you can see, the book of Psalms has been skipped over. It will be read, starting next month, in the evening when you have finished the New Testament.

I have been excited about the interesting and rewarding interviews the staff and I have had with many of our senior friends! Each time I have the privilege to interview one of you, or the chance to pray with you, or whatever, the Lord blesses me richly.

This month I am privileged to share with you a very interesting couple who are members of First Baptist Church of Blanchester, Ohio. They are a remarkable couple indeed.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Hall accepted Christ as their Savior together in 1950 while attending an evangelistic meeting at a Baptist church. Up until that time they had been Methodists who "went through all the formalities of a Christian life, but really weren't Christians." That evening they realized that they had never had the peaceful relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ and gave their lives to His care. Mr. and Mrs. Hall were baptized the same year.

Since then they have both been highly active in the church. This is needed so much today. It almost seems today that the only thing church members do is warm the pews. But not the Halls!

Chester Hall was a deacon for eighteen years and the church clerk for twenty-two years. He has been an usher as long as he has been in the church and continues to usher even today!

Florence Hall was the nursery superintendent when the Halls first became

"Let us hear the counsel of the Lord: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the way of life."
Ecclesiastes 12:13

Servants

rk J. Highman

members of the church, and she was later the president of the Missionary Committee for three years.

Both sang in the choir for a considerably long time until they felt they just weren't up to being involved in that particular ministry.

Today Mrs. Hall is the church Sunday school secretary. She gathers all the attendance booklets and tallies the attendance each Sunday morning and each prayer meeting.

Both the Halls are involved in the custodial ministry of the church, and you can be sure they do a good job! They are faithful in their service if ever I saw faithful people.

The Halls are fun people to talk with—you can't miss them. They know nearly everyone in the church, and rarely do they let you slip by them without giving you a warm handshake and a friendly greeting.

When asked what the motivation is behind their ministry at Blanchester, they commented that they were there "just to serve the Lord." This is great and encourages me. Many times people work in a church to bring honor and glory to themselves, or to gain experience—just so they can look big and mighty in this world. But those things are unimportant. In I Corinthians 10:31 God tells us what our motivation should be for all things that we do: "Whatever, therefore, ye eat, or drink, or whatever ye do, do all to the glory of God." Praise the Lord that people still exist for God's glory and not their own!

clusion of the whole
keep His command-
whole duty of man."

Note Worthy

by
C. Dean Harkness

In 1748, an old sailing ship was tied to the dock in Southampton. The memory of the stench of enclosed and chained human flesh could have mingled with the screams and chants for mercy. The ship was a slave ship. Her captain - John Newton. He had been many years upon the sea and in the vileness of slave trade. John Newton had been involved from the early age of eleven years in an immoral life. He spent his youth on many different ships at sea. He was rejected by his father, in trouble with his employers, and finally was jailed. When at last he was freed, he worked on a slave ship until finally he was in command of his own ship.

It was during his last voyage in 1748 when a storm came up on the ocean and he almost lost his life that he was converted. John Newton became a minister and served God for the rest of his life. Early in his ministry he penned the hymn "Amazing Grace" as a conclusion to one of his sermons. "Amazing Grace" was what he felt concerning God dealing in his life; that God would save a vile man as he.

Verse For The Month:

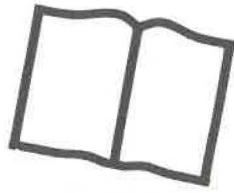
Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again. But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

John 4:13, 14

Thought For The Month

When clouds of trouble put a tear in your eye, God stands ready to put a rainbow in your heart.

Light for Living



by Dr. James T. Jeremiah

A LOOK AT
THE BOOK

The Christian Inquirer (9/78) under the caption "Parent's Voice Being Heard" reports that many parents are speaking against the books they make available to their children.

The board of education in Wyoming, Michigan, banned from the high school library the paperback version of Saturday Night Fever. An attempt was made in a school in Wales, Wisconsin to outlaw Studs Terkel's best-selling book about people and their jobs, Working. The school board in Forest Lake, Minnesota, banned the showing of the film version of Shirley Jackson's short story, The Lottery.

There have been more incidents of banning, removing or censoring books in the 1978-79 school year than at any other time in at least the last 25 years, according to Judith F. Krug, director of the American Library Association's office for intellectual freedom. Most agree that the trend will continue to grow. The incidents have occurred in every part of the country, although there appear to be more in the East, North Central and Midwest states. Targets have included classics and popular non-fiction, Pulitzer Prize-winning novels and dictionaries. Norma Gabler, of Longview, Texas, who is considered one of the major voices in the national book-banning movement, says, "For years we taught the academic skills. The important thing was to teach the child to read and write. We had good, wholesome stories. We taught the good, the true and the beautiful. Now it is a steady stream of violence and disrespectful attacks on the home. The aim is no longer to teach fact, skill and knowledge. The aim is to change the thinking and the values of children.

In commenting on this, let me say there has always been and is a battle for the mind. Satan has ever been trying to capture the minds of men and women so that they will deny, ridicule or ignore God. "But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the God of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them" (2 Cor. 4:3,4).

"But I am afraid, lest as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds should be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ" (2 Cor. 11:3, NAS)

In speaking of the Christian mind, the Bible has this to say, "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind" (2 Tim. 1:7). "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Rom. 12:2).

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:7). "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil...And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Eph. 6:11,17).

God has provided a helmet of salvation to protect the mind of the Christian against the attacks of the devil. Remember, however, we must put this helmet on—appropriate the provision of God for our own needs. Let's continue to ban bad books, but tell people where the victory is.

Let's Chatter

edited by

About a Matter

Loanna Hamilton

Sometimes the Lord lays on our hearts a precious thought or a profound truth, and we express it in writing in the form of a poem or verse. *Living Springs* invites its readers to send in their poems and personal thoughts to share with others. These can greatly bless other people's lives. They often bring comfort during a time of trouble or distress, or they simply express what one has wanted to say but was unable to find the proper words to do so.

Here is a poem that was sent by Pollyanna Sedgial. If you have a poem you wish to share with others, send it in to *Living Springs*!

Getting the Message

*God doesn't speak to me
Except intuitively -
When I get the message right,
Every hour is bright;
When I get it wrong,
I'm a sour note in life's song...
Remembering to live-by-Christ
In everything I do,
Remembering to think of good,
Of lovely things, just and true,
Remembering that what I like for me
Is the way I must be with you -
Remembering all of these will give
God's loving word for me to live.*

Quizzle by Gary Welton

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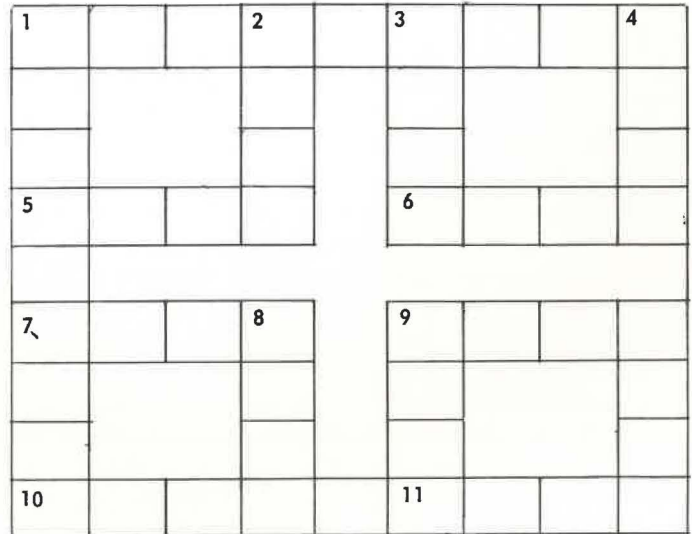
Across

1. And there were _____ keeping watch over their flocks by night (Luke 2:8)
5. I am the _____ of Sharon, and the lily of the valleys (Song of Solomon 2:1)
6. "Are ye _____ said the Master" (hymn title)
7. Seek, and ye shall _____ (Matt 7:7)
9. I am come that they might have _____, and that they might have it more abundantly (John 10:10)
10. That whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have _____-lasting life (John 3:16)
11. "O Little _____ of Bethlehem" (hymn title)

Down

1. Tolobey is better than _____ (1 Samuel 15:22)
2. Blessed are the _____ in heart: for they shall see God (Matt. 5:8)

3. The name of an Old Testament book concerning the return from exile.
4. A characteristic of God; it refers to His control.
8. I am the _____: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved (John 10:9)
9. Thy brother was dead, and is alive again, and was _____, and is found (Luke 15:32).



Looking At God's Creation

by Janet Ebel



Did you know that an eagle can spot an average size hare from a distance of a mile and a quarter to possibly two miles? This is because an eagle actually has binocular vision. God has so constructed this bird that it can see many things a human can't possibly see.

Another fascinating thing about the eagle is its stability in soaring flight. When soaring, this bird has special feathers that change position slightly with changing air currents to keep the eagle's flight stable and steady. It is not easily thrown by strong air currents.

For those who think an eagle has no troubles, its troubles begin as soon as it is hatched, especially if there is an older brother or sister in the nest. Once hatched, an eagle will grow steadily stronger if it is induced to eat. So when a brother or sister emerges, a battle to the death usually begins. The eaglet with the advantage of several days' strength can easily kill the other

eaglet. The older eaglet is unmerciful to its younger counterpart. Even if the feeble eaglet retreats and "gives in," the older eaglet will still peck and torment it, usually killing it. This battle is sometimes called the "Cain and Abel" battle.

We, as Christians, should take a warning from this family battle of the eagles. Sometimes we tend to

cut down and kill the enthusiasm of new-born Christians who are weak in the faith but desire to grow. We should rather encourage them and help them grow stronger.

Certainly our Christian lives should be comparable to the eagle's stable soaring flight. The Bible tells us to "Be no more...tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine" (Ephesians 4:14). We accepted Christ by faith and now we must live for Him by faith. Trusting the Lord for His strength gives us that stability we need.

Even as the eagle can spot things we can't possibly see, so the Christian can see things through eyes of faith that the unbeliever can't begin to see! Our eyes of faith must always rest on Him.

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But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

John 4:14

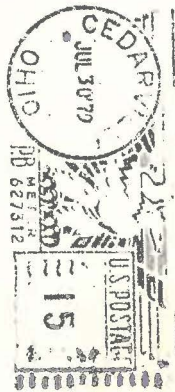
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Quizzle

ANSWERS:

Across

1. shepherds
5. rose
6. able
7. find
9. life
10. ever
11. town

Down

1. sacrifice
2. pure
3. Ezra
4. sovereign
8. door
9. lost