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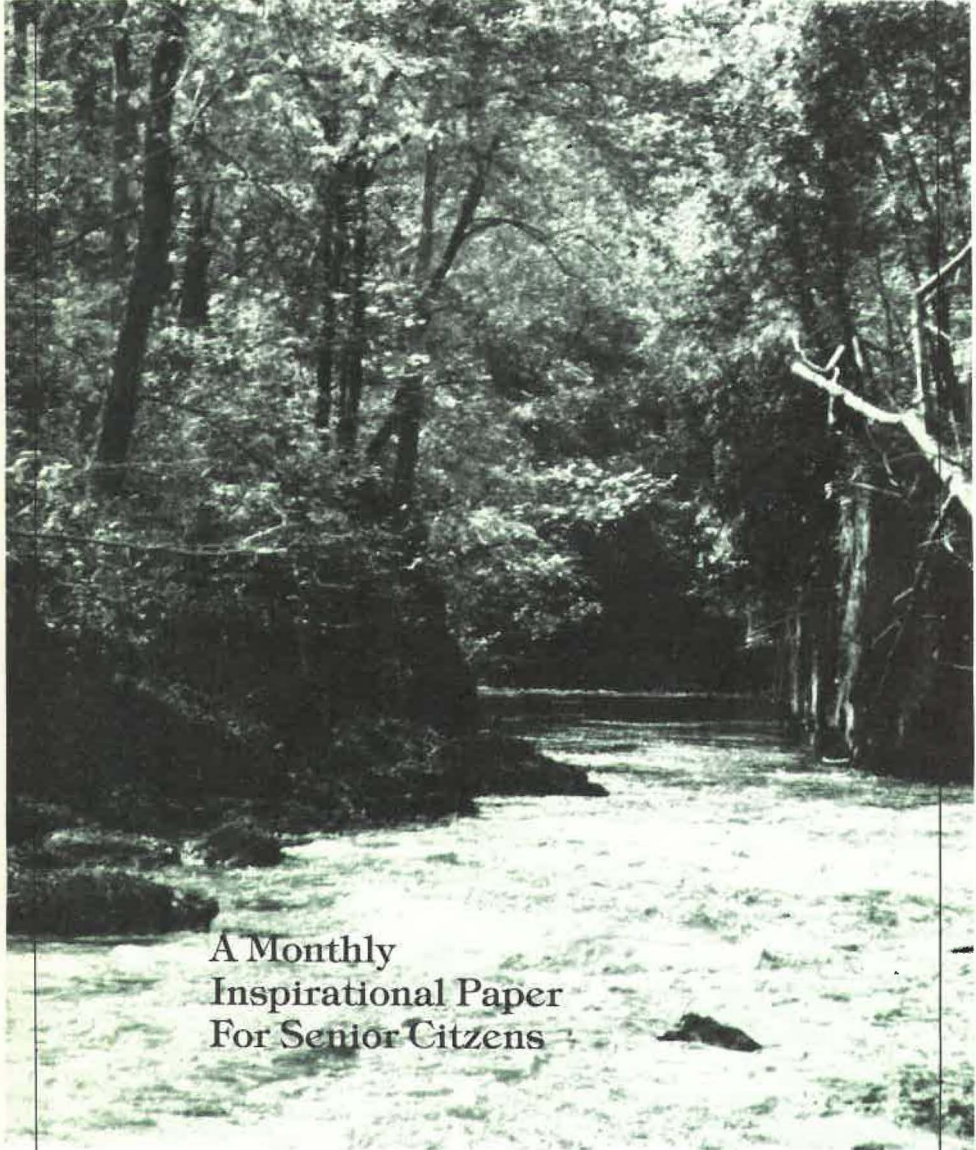
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# Living Springs

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A Monthly  
Inspirational Paper  
For Senior Citizens

AUGUST 1981

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# The Expiation for Sin

by  
Dr. Lehman Strauss

Expiation is the act of making satisfaction or atonement for a crime or fault. God, because of His nature, not only demands that sin be punished but He also has provided for the sinner's restoration to fellowship with Himself. It is at this point where the death of Christ enters the scene. God could not be satisfied until sin had been fully atoned for. The Bible teaches that by the sufferings and death of Christ, the acceptable Substitute was provided for the sin of man, thereby making His sufferings and death to be vicarious, that is, in the room and stead of the sinner.

There could be no expiation for sin apart from the sacrifice of blood, the reason being that God so declared it. "Without shedding of blood is no remission" (Hebrews 9:22). "It is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul" (Leviticus 17:11). Christ was the sinner's bleeding sacrifice. "Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us" (Hebrews 9:12). "...now once in the end of the world (age) hath He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself" (Hebrews 9:26).

Fortunately for us sinners, God met the

demands of His own holiness by providing Himself an atonement, a satisfaction, an expiation. Christ's death on the cross was not a compromise but a holy Substitute, a satisfaction. God is love, but true love is conditioned by holiness so that it can be said that the most fundamental attribute of God is not love, but holiness. Because of the very nature of God He must maintain His own moral excellence. God could not forgive sin without an atonement. Human sin could not go unpunished because of Who and What God is. The tendency among modern liberal theologians is to assume that a God of love can pardon sin without atonement. But that kind of easy-going optimism cannot possibly understand either the holiness of God or the heinousness of sin. The love of God was never more fully demonstrated than in His self-giving, self-sacrificing passion at Calvary when "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). Nothing less than the atonement of Christ could rescue the sinner from the guilt and penalty of his sins and at the same time satisfy the infinitely holy and just God.

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# REFLECTIONS of FAITH

by Kathy Jo Kirkbride

## Creation

God made every rock,  
He created each tree,  
He made each mountain,  
With so much BEAUTY...

God made everything,  
Here on earth below,  
And gives us sunshine,  
Then the RAIN AND SNOW...

God made everything,  
For both you and me.  
All he created...  
SUPREME MAJESTY...

Evelyn Nitso

## Ode to The Old Oak Tree

*The old oak tree by the side of the road,  
Stands tall and straight as an oak tree should.*

*The leaves so beautiful, first green then gold,  
The branches so strong with strength untold.*

*That oak has stood for many long years,  
A landmark for me from my carefree years.*

*We passed beneath its branches on our way to school,  
And played beneath by the clear water pool.*

*Over the years as the oak tree grew  
It spread its branches so wide and true.*

*When you look at that Tree, so tall and grand,  
You know it was planted by God's dear hand.*

*'Tis a landmark I'll remember from days of yore,  
And hope it will stand until time is no more.*

Carrie F. Bartlett

## Answered Prayer

When Adoniram and Ann Judson arrived in Rangoon, Burma, there was not a known Christian in the country. Judson left behind an invitation to become pastor of the largest church in Boston. Ahead lay the seemingly impossible task of translating the Scriptures into Burmese. Judson began work on a Burmese grammar and a tract that explained the basic doctrines of Christianity. Three years later the tract was distributed. One inquirer came, listened, then vanished. Another year passed and still no converts. Judson's health broke from overwork at his translation. He took a sea voyage and regained his strength. Then two more years passed before he baptized Moug Nau, his first convert.

Greater trials lay ahead of the Burma plodder. He was imprisoned and tortured by the Burmese king, but his translation of the Scriptures was marvelously kept from harm. His beloved first wife and several children died. He married again, only to lose his second companion in Burma. Finally, just before his death in 1850, he completed the first Burmese Bible and finished most of the first Burmese-English dictionary.

He died praying for the spiritual harvest from the seeds he had sown. One hundred years later there were almost 200,000 Christians in Burma, a direct result of Adoniram Judson's patient toil.

"And therefore will the Lord wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will

he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the Lord is a God of judgment: blessed are they that wait for him" (Isa. 30:18).

"Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord" (Psalm 27:14). "Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart" (Psalm 119:2). "Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live" (Psalm 116:2).

"Call unto me and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not" (Jeremiah 33:3). "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us" (Ephesians 3:20).

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matt. 6:33). "Ask, and it shall be given you: seek, and ye shall find: knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (Matt. 7:7). "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:7).

We are commanded to "pray without ceasing" and are assured that God will answer the petition of His believing children. Let's pray and wait for his answer. He doesn't operate His program on our schedule, but we should make it our business to observe what He is doing and be grateful for His blessing. Our God specializes in answering prayer.

## Time Is Short

Only twenty-four hours in a day—  
Some to work, some to sleep, and some to play.  
Guide my time in Your Word; Help me pray.  
Teach me, Lord, to be faithful each day.

Keep me conscious each moment of Thee—  
Your life, Your sacrifice, eternity.  
Melt and mold this heart of mine. Let others  
see  
Your love being reflected in me.

Time is short, Oh, so short. Help me channel  
my time.  
May I use each waking moment for You.  
Make my time be Your time; May I not selfish  
be.  
Help me use the time wisely for Thee.

Darlene Murdock

THOT: Today we walk a desert pathway;  
tomorrow the garden of God!

In 1940 Elizabeth Amundson, at the age of 22, moved from Wyoming to the mountains of West Virginia where she and her husband, Myland, would begin their missionary work under Baptist Mid Missions. They located themselves back in the hills about an hour from New Martinsville, West Virginia.

Since there were no fundamental churches in the area, their mission field was rather large and open. Upon first arriving, the young couple worked mainly with children, traveling from district to district holding children's groups in schools. Eventually, by reaching the families of some of these children, a small group of believers began meeting in various homes and later built a small church.

Mrs. Amundson was always active in some aspect of the church ministry. Playing the piano, visitation, Bible school, Pioneer Girls, women's meetings and teaching Sunday School were a few of her activities. At one time she was teaching nine different classes a week.

Through her writing ability, which she demonstrated in writing the monthly prayer letter that she sent out, she was asked to do some articles for the Ohio Independent Baptist monthly. Also, she composed Daily Vacation

# Servants

Moore

Bible School material for Regular Baptist Press for about three years.

Besides being active as a missionary, Mrs. Amundson also kept busy as the mother of four children. The family lived in the country and Mrs. Amundson was always canning, milking a cow, collecting eggs, hoeing the garden, or doing endless other tasks required to take care of a farm.

In 1979, after forty years of ministering to the Lowman Baptist Church, which they had founded, Reverend Amundson resigned as the pastor. A special day was set aside by the church as a farewell celebration in honor of the Amundson's ministry, and people traveled from all across the country to attend.

Although they resigned from the church, the Amundsons are still involved in missionary work. Mrs. Amundson is not able to do as much as she would like, though, because she takes care of her elderly father and invalid mother. However, she still attends church and goes on visitation when possible and helps with arts and crafts, which she thoroughly enjoys.

Elizabeth Amundson has truly been a servant of the Lord and an encouragement to others.

## Note Worthy

by  
LoAnna Hamilton

"Jesus Loves Me" is a song that is sung by children everywhere. It is sung in many different countries and in many different languages. Not only is it sung by children, but it is also enjoyed by adults as well.

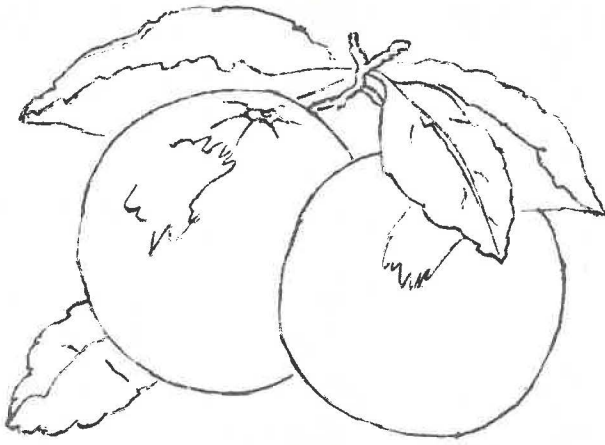
The song is a comfort to Christians who like to be reminded that Jesus loves them and it is also an instrument of evangelism as it tells the work of Jesus Christ. Many missionaries teach it to the people to whom they minister.

"Jesus Loves Me" was written by Anna Warner. Anna and her sister lived on an island in the Hudson River. They wrote stories for books and magazines and taught Bible classes. The tune was written by William B. Bradbury, who has been referred to as the "Father of Sunday School music."

Jesus loves me! this I know, For the Bible tells me so;

Little ones to Him belong; They are weak, but He is strong.

THOT: The difficulties of life are intended to make us better - not bitter.



## ...But the fruit of the Spirit is...GOODNESS

Galatians 5:22

by Paul D. Sewell

What does it mean to do good? Why should goodness characterize our outward manifestations? These questions have been asked by every generation since Adam and Eve, yet goodness has not characterized the majority of men's actions. Because of the sin of Adam and Eve man has inherited a sinful nature. He is inclined to do evil because sin contaminated the righteousness of Eden's paradise. Children have been instructed for centuries that good behavior will prompt beneficial rewards from Santa Claus at Christmas. While the attempt to promote positive behavior in this fictitious way may be condoned, it certainly leaves a void to those of us who have graduated from childhood fables.

Then why should goodness perpetrate our daily lives? The answer is found at the very beginning of creation when God looked upon His new universe and proclaimed it as good. The state in which created objects came into existence was a perfect condition of goodness. Our great Creator proclaimed goodness seven times as recorded in the first chapter of Genesis. He viewed the universe and world around Him and "saw that it was good." Everything that was needed for man's survival was declared good. "And God saw everything that He had made, and behold it was very good" (Genesis 1:25). This was God's personal stamp of approval.

In order to complement the condition of God's creation, God's character had to

exemplify goodness. His character from the outset of eternity was righteous and good. "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (II Corinthians 5:21). Christ's earthly character displayed goodness from healing mortal infirmities to healing the wickedness of men's souls. Goodness cannot exist without God, for to spell GOOD without GOD would leave "O". Omitting God from goodness only results in emptiness.

It is important to see God's condition and character of goodness, but without application we have lost its substantiality. The application is both personal and direct. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17). Why then should goodness characterize our lives? Again the answer is personal and direct...God commanded it. "Cleave to that which is good" (Romans 12:9).

Goodness is a quality which every Christian should practice in tongue, action and thought, and it is a commanded practice which will display the condition and character of God.

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## A Soft Answer

by Marla Waddle

This month's soft answer . . . "A False Balance"

As Solomon was writing the Proverbs, a system of commerce was beginning to develop in Israel. As would be expected, a system of cheating developed as well. When weighing the goods a customer had purchased, the dishonest merchant would fix the scales so that he would not have to relinquish all that the customer had coming. This happened so frequently that Solomon issued several warnings about it, such as Proverbs 11:1 which states, "A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is His delight."

What the wise King was hitting at in those warnings was that in order to please God, men must establish a bond of common honesty between them. How much more is that needed today as deception has become a way of life for so many. May God help us to so bond with others that in all things we might present a just weight of love and honesty.



# Quizzle by Larry Lim

## Triple Cross

Women are held in very high respect in God's Word. Their esteemed roles range from that of prophetess and political leader to that of the earthly mother of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Following are the names of some famous Biblical women. Place each name in the blank with the same number of spaces. However, there is only one correct position in the puzzle for each name.

For example, since Elisabeth is a nine-letter name, it goes in one of the two positions having nine spaces. This has already been filled in to provide a starting place from which to work. Thus, the remaining nine-letter name goes in the other position having nine spaces. And so on.

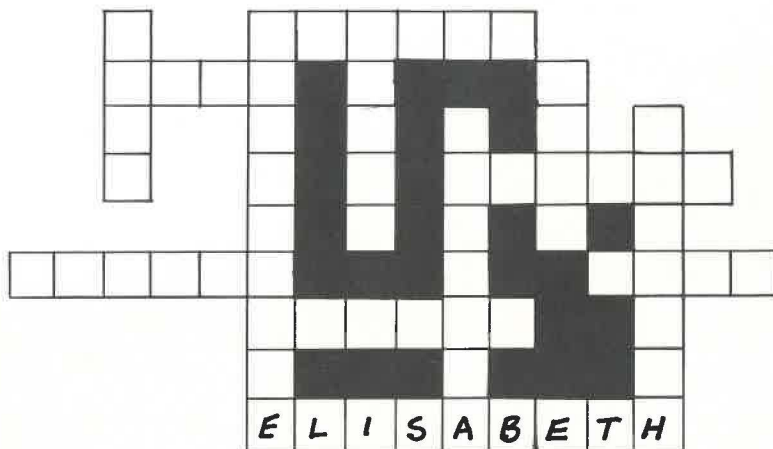
**4-letter names**  
Anna (Luke 2:36-38)  
Lois (II Tim. 1:5)  
Mary (Matt. 1:18-25)  
Ruth (Ruth)

**5-letter names**  
Rahab (Joshua 2:1-21)

**9-letter names**  
Elisabeth (Luke 1:41-45)  
(Mary) Magdalene (Luke 10:38-42)

**6-letter names**  
Esther (Esther)  
Eunice (II Tim. 1:5)  
Miriam (Ex. 15:20-21)  
Rachel (Gen. 30:22-24)

**7-letter names**  
Deborah (Judges 4:4-16)  
Rebecca (Gen. 25:20-26)



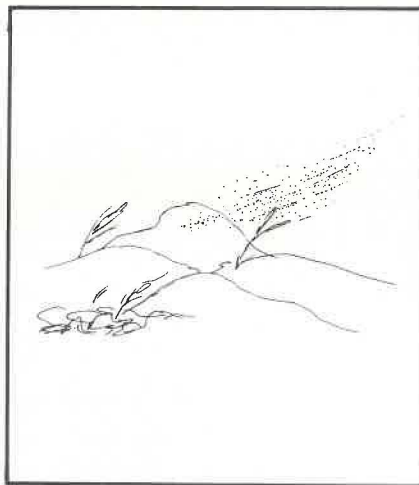
## Looking at God's Creation

by Carlene Terlouw

Have you ever been in a bad dust storm? When a small bit of wind stirs up dust and sand, it is enough to bring stings and tears to my eyes. I cannot imagine living in the Dust Bowl of the Southwest during their periods of high winds.

Dust is made up of small fragments of many types of solid matter. Mineral matter makes up a large part of the dust which is carried by the wind. This mineral matter is picked up from rocks and bare soil, especially that from the plowed fields. This topsoil also is blown away from areas of too much grazing and too little rain.

The Lord who controls the rain to fall or not to fall also is the master of the winds. In Old Testament times, the Hebrews who forsook



Jehovah were punished with dust and ashes from heaven instead of rain (Deut. 28:24).

Remember also that man was formed from the dust and filled with life by God's own breath. Yes, He gives us breath and He also decides when our lives should end. In Psalm 103:14-18, David states that God knows our frame of body and remembers that we are dust. Man's physical being here on the earth is compared to a flower. A flower is

sprouted, nourished by rain from heaven, and flourishes. Then a wind may come and sweep it away and the place where it once stood is barren. Your physical body may return to dust at anytime the Lord wishes. Where will your soul then be?

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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 4:4

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