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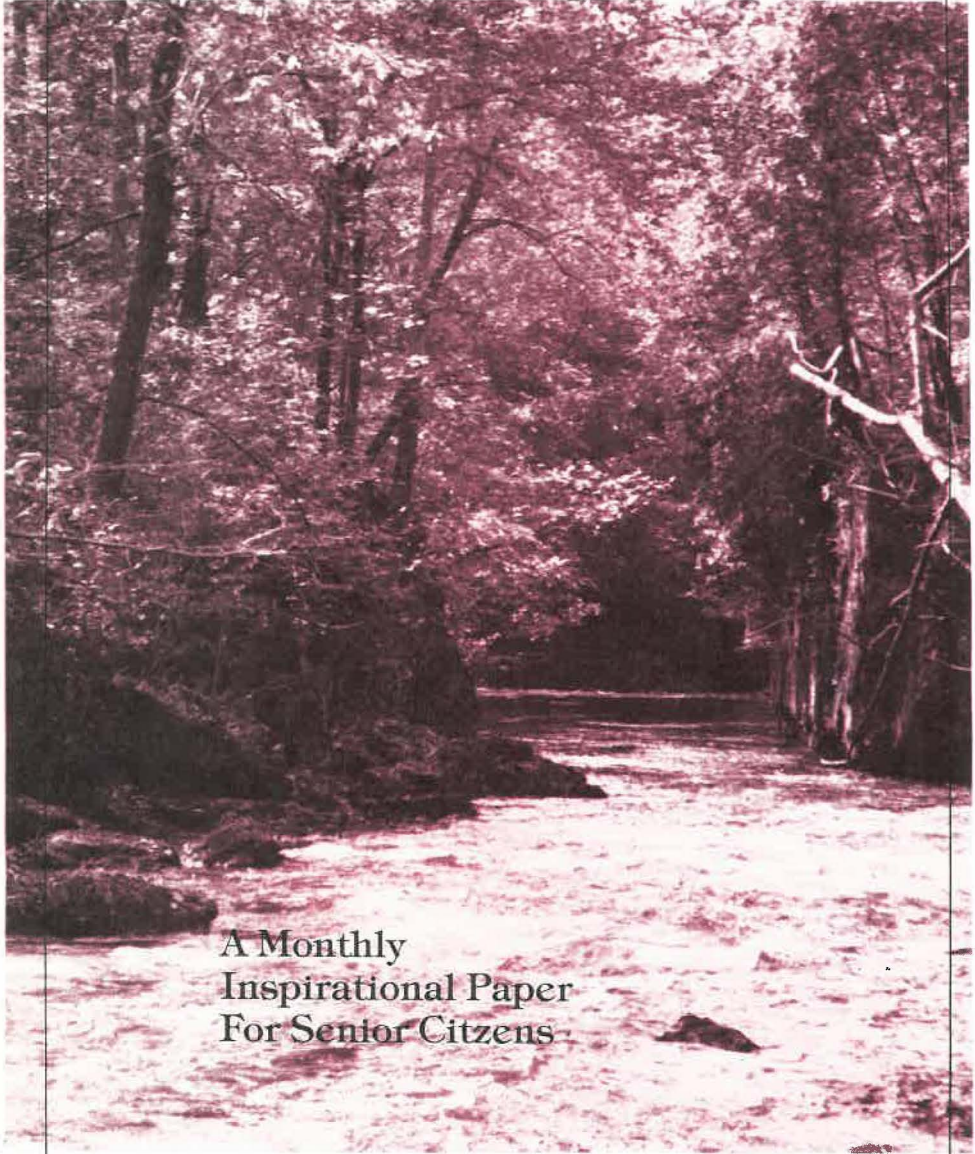
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Living Springs

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A Monthly
Inspirational Paper
For Senior Citizens

APRIL 1982

"I Will Come Again"

The story is told of an old man who lived in a dilapidated shack, with no one as a companion except an aged dog named Shep. One day, the man fell down the front steps of his humble quarters and severely injured himself. Shep hastened to the door of the neighbors and barked until their attention was attracted to him, and he led them to the scene of the accident. The ambulance was called immediately, and the suffering man was rushed to the hospital, but not without the faithful and loving Shep. While it was against the rules for a dog to ride in an ambulance, the driver could hardly refuse the determination of the animal to remain close to his master. When they arrived at the hospital, the attendants quickly wheeled the patient to the elevator, and Shep was right at their heels. Of course, dogs were not supposed to enter the hospital, but again it was hard to restrain the anxious Shep. When the elevator door opened, and he started to follow his master into it, the nurses had to hold him back. They could not permit him to go up to the operating room. The old man who was still conscious turned toward his dog and said, "You wait here, Shep; I'll be back." The patient was whisked to surgery, where it was soon apparent that he had been mortally injured. He died within the day. Shep remained at the elevator entrance in the main lobby; and every time the door opened, he arose expectantly, looking for his master. This went on for days. The nurses were not able to persuade him to give up his vigil. They became fond of him, and fed and cared for him. A bed was prepared for him close to the elevator doors; and at all

hours of the night and day he would rise in anticipation every time the door was opened. This went on for week, until one day, when Shep was hurrying across the street in front of the hospital to get back to his waiting place by the elevator, he was struck down by an automobile.

The promise made by this master to his dog that he would come back was the promise of a man. Such promises are broken many times. But the assurance of our Savior, "I will come again," is dependable. He is able to always keep His promises. "God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?" (Num. 23:19)

The coming of Christ has been linked to a magnet placed over a mixture of dust, pieces of paper, glass, wood, and steel shavings. The magnet will lift out a bit of steel and leave the rest behind. The magnet makes no mistakes. It reveals the true nature of the metal and distinguishes the true from the false.



Dr. James T. Jeremiah

REFLECTIONS of FAITH

by Kathy Jo Kirkbride

Just One Glimpse

by
Reda Moore

*Just one glimpse of the Savior
nail-pierced to that cruel tree
Made my heart shudder with guilt
that He had died for me;
And there beneath that blood-stained,
sin-cursed cross,
I dropped on shaken knees and, trembling,
my load of sin before the Lord I tossed.*

*Just one glimpse of the linen
neatly stacked in the empty tomb
Thrilled my being that my Savior
had conquered both His death and doom.
Now that He is risen,
new life to me He's brought;
And I will glory in His precious name,
for by His blood I'm bought.*

*Just one glimpse of the Lord
seated at the right hand of God,
And I anxiously await to meet them
As the Heaven bound road I trod.
But, as for now,
I have my life on earth to live,
As through my actions
All praise to God I give.*

Post - Resurrection Liberty

The Word of God clearly portrays the great truth that Resurrection Life results in Liberty in our daily living-liberty from all the vices, evils and deadness associated with the old carnal life of the flesh. The instructions of the Bible as set forth in Paul's letter to the Colossians (Col. 3:5-6) to be liberated from the deeds of the old nature has illustrations in the Scripture. We observe this in the account of the raising of Lazarus (John 11:43-44).

There is no doubt as to the historical truthfulness of the record. What we have is a perfect picture of the normal Christian liberty. There is to be seen in this account of the raising of Lazarus a PATTERN of the LIBERTY produced by RESURRECTION. After Christ came to the grave where the body of Lazarus had been laid following its being wrapped with spices and graveclothes, He commanded the stone to be rolled away from the grave opening. Christ prayed to His heavenly Father, then cried with a loud voice: "Lazarus, come forth."

Lazarus came forth. He came forth ALIVE:—he has life. He was given life though he had been dead. All of us were "...dead in trespasses and sins..." (Eph. 2:1). At conversion we are raised to a new life. Paul continues in Eph. 2:5: "...when we were dead in sins (God) hath quickened us together with Christ." Elsewhere Paul records in Romans 6:4: "...like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of Life."

"In newness of Life." Our walk, our manner of living should not be related to the grave from which we have been raised, but rather related to the Throne there in glory. We just cannot fathom Lazarus wishing to go back to the sorrow, the defeat, the blackness of the cave-grave.

In this PATTERN we see Lazarus having LIFE, but up to now little or no LIBERTY. He emerges

from the tomb restricted by his graveclothes. His walk is hindered, his arms bound and his sight obscured. Sad to say, some saints are like this; they make little progress for their feet are "tied up," They are not able to work for their hands are bound. They cannot see much for their eyes are covered over. Yes, one can identify their graveclothes: rags of their old life, garments of the old nature, the habits of sin. To these believers Paul writes: "put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth," Col. 3:8.

We soon see in Scriptures the PURPOSE for this LIBERTY experienced by Lazarus. He received Life and Liberty that he might Witness for Christ. Jesus said at this time: "...This sickness is...for the Glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby," John 11:4. Many people came to his home to see Him, so states John 12:9. Again the Purpose was that he might have fellowship with the Saviour, as recorded in John 12:1-2. The Christian life involves not only witness but fellowship. How often we try to undertake the first without the second.

Dear fellow-believers, don't be content to stumble all around, tied up in your graveclothes of sinful habits, pleasures of this world, ambitions. Look to HIM Who said: "Loose him, and let him go." Thank God, in Christ there is LIFE and LIBERTY.



Dr. Hugh T. Hall

A Fruit-Full Thought

by
Barbara Furr

Light broke through the darkness of early morn as thunderbolts from the rising sun shot through the parting clouds. It was the dawning of the third day after the crucifixion of Christ and, oh, what glory, what value lay in store for that day. For on this day Jesus victoriously arose from the grave, breaking the chains of death as He brought the gift of eternal life to man. Through Jesus, God reaches out to every man, desirous to give him new life. To Christians everywhere, this day of days is prized and valued more than any other, because of the meaning it holds for our life.

Goethe once said, "Nothing should be valued more highly than the value of each day." This particular day has great value because of the gift God gave to man. But Goethe said that each day has value, and he is right. For without today there is no tomorrow. The important thing is to realize and experience the value of today, for we don't know what we'll have tomorrow. Remember the joy you experienced when you received a letter or phone call from your son or daughter or a surprise visitor dropped in for an afternoon chat. These things easily add value to our day because they are not part of our normal routine. But the hard part comes in finding the hidden values of a normal day. Think of the friendly hello from the neighbors, or the warmth of the sun on your face, or that robin aimlessly chirping outside the kitchen window. Don't these things all add value to your days? Can you imagine how bland your day would be if God were to remove all the niceties we so easily take for granted? Let's praise God daily for the life He has given us, and ask Him to show us the value of each day

"We have no desire to retire and want to serve the Lord until He comes or we go to meet Him." This is what Mel and Dorothy Keeler, field representatives for Shepherds, Inc., told me. Shepherds, in Union Grove, Wisconsin, is a home and school for the mentally retarded with a Christ-centered, Bible-based program. Mel was born on May 17, 1918 in Athens, Pennsylvania, and was saved out of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Mel's wife for forty-three years this May, Dorothy was born on November 8, 1921 in Schneider, Indiana. She was saved out of the Disciples of Christ Church in 1944.

Mel Keeler graduated from Grace College of Bible in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1949. Dorothy also attended night classes there and cared for her children during the day.

Thinking back, Dorothy remembers the Easter of 1949 while Mel was going to school and student pastoring making ten dollars a week. Easter Sunday was coming and their children were in the program; the children had no nice clothes to wear. Never mentioning it to anyone, the Keelers prayed about the matter. When they got up Easter Sunday morning they found two bushel baskets—one had a dress for each of the girls and a suit for their son and the other was full of groceries.

For twenty-seven years Mel pastored in different churches in various parts of the

Shepherds

y
Lanzhof

country. Each church in which he pastored supported Shepherds. When Dr. Wood, the Executive Director of Shepherds, was looking for a field representative the only name that came to his mind was Mel Keeler. In February the Keelers concluded their ninth year as the first and only full-time field representatives for Shepherds and are still going.

Traveling about 30,000 miles a year from Maine to California and from Washington to Florida, the Keelers are the good-will ambassadors for Shepherds. Due to their traveling they spend, on the average, twenty days a year at their home in Stryker, Ohio.

At each church they present a slide show which takes the viewer on a visual tour of Shepherds. This presentation is designed to acquaint the viewer with the activities and responsibilities carried out regularly. Each presentation is the same but, because of the Keelers' genuine interest and concern for the mentally retarded (someone with a slower mind), each delivery is fresh and interesting.

Dorothy had cancer but is now in remission and both are in good health. They depend very much on each other's company. Both enjoy rock hunting and using their metal detector. They shared with me their favorite verses. Mel's verse is Philippians 1:6 and Dorothy's is Hebrews 13:5. Praise the Lord for such wonderful, caring, and faithful Shepherds.

What Holds You Back?

Behind me is infinite power—
Before me is endless possibility—
Around me is limitless opportunity—
What holds me back?

Now that is a good question!! I am sure we all can come up with numerous excuses for not trying something new, or pressing on farther with an old accomplishment. It is easy to hide behind the past and show off our credits as fine reasons to sit back—right?

There is a good reason, however, to reach out for those "endless possibilities" and around us for "limitless opportunities." Did you know that more than 64% of the great achievements in the world have been accomplished by men and women past sixty years of age? That's right—64%. The Sunshine Magazine state that the ten years between 60 and 70 account for 35% of the world's greatest achievements; the years between 70 and 80, 23% and after 80, 8%.

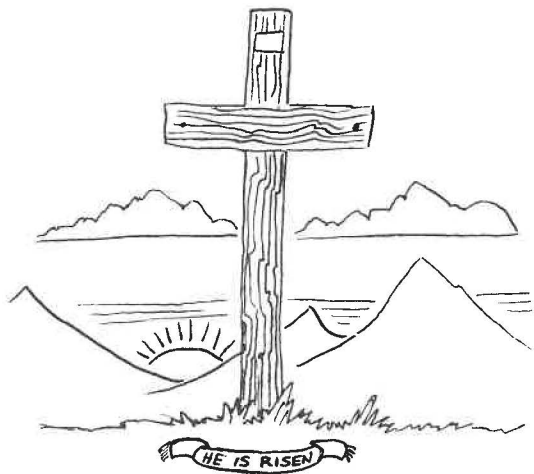
Think you are too old to do what you have always dreamed of doing? These golden years may just prove to yield the greatest productivity of your life. What holds you back?

Definition:

Arthritis—A condition of get-up and OH!!

Legend - A lie that has attained the dignity of age.

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He Is Risen — He Is Coming Again

“Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him: and with his stripes we are healed.—

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth...” (Isaiah 53:4-7)

“And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure in his hand.” (Isaiah 53:9&10).

“And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen as he said” (Matthew 28: 5&6).

“And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up

from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven” (Acts 1:10 & 11).

The promise of Christ’s return can be counted on. Easter reminds us again of this great promise and of many others.

Do you ever worry and fret about whether the sun will shine in the morning or whether spring will come, bringing with it green leaves and singing birds?

More than likely, not! The sun’s rising and spring’s return are as certain to come as the sun’s setting each day and the eventual chill of autumn. The same God who controls our universe made the promise of His return to claim His own. If our name is in the Lamb’s Book of Life, we can be assured that He WILL COME as promised!!

Praise God for a Risen Savior!

Lucinda Woodard
Managing Editor

A Soft Answer

by Marla Waddle

This month’s soft answer...“A Tree of Life”

Once again it is the Easter season, a time to reflect upon the past and call to remembrance that day long ago when Christ became the supreme sacrifice for the sins of us all. It is fitting at such a time to direct our thoughts backward. Never must we lose sight of that most victorious day when our Lord conquered death for us. But at the same time I’m compelled to look forward, to an even more precious day when the Saviour returns to complete the work begun at Calvary. My prayer for each of you is that the Easter season will not cause you to dwell so intently on the past that you forget to look forward to that great day to come. Proverbs 13:12 tells us that “Hope deferred maketh the heart sick; but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life.” Do not leave Christ hanging on the tree in your perception to the extent that you sink in sorrow and heaviness. Think instead of Him as the tree of life in full bloom that He will become for you as the fulfillment of your heart’s greatest desire.

Quizzle by Larry Lim

This crossword puzzle concerns some of the cities and towns in which Jesus lived or visited.

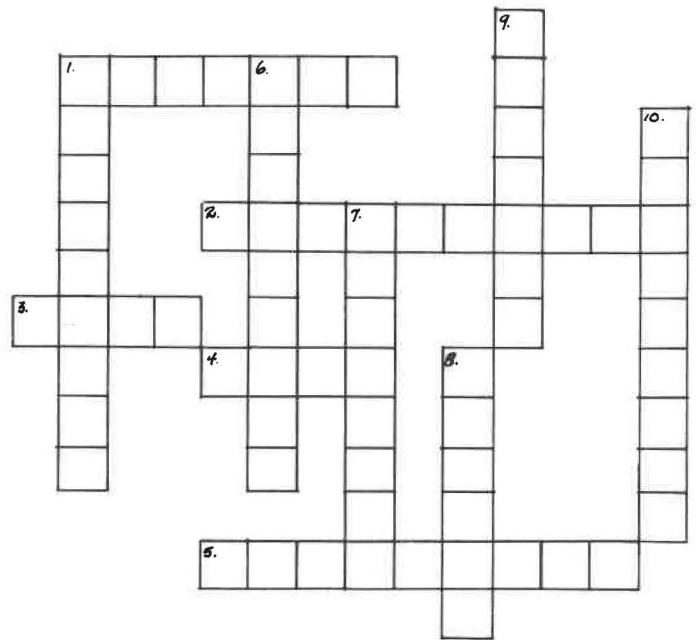
ACROSS

1. Jesus met Zacchaeus here (Luke 19:1)
2. After Jesus walked on the water, the boat landed here. (Mark 6:53)
3. Jesus raised a widow's son from the dead here. (Luke 7:11)
4. Jesus changed the water into wine at a wedding here. (John 2:1)
5. Jesus healed the blind man here. (Mark 8:22)

DOWN

1. The site of the Triumphal Entry. (Matthew 21:10)
6. Jesus healed the servant of a Centurion who lived here. (Matthew 8:5)
7. Where Jesus lived as a child. (Matthew 2:23)

8. This is the town in which Jesus witnessed to the Samaritan woman. (John 4:5)
9. Mary annointed Jesus with expensive perfume here. (John 12:3)
10. This was Jesus' birthplace. (Matthew 2:1)



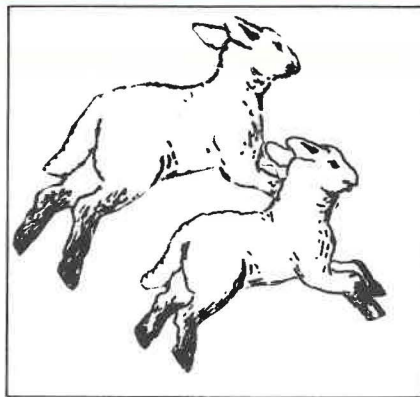
Looking at God's Creation

by Carlene Terlouw

Lamb is not just another name for sheep. It is instead the flesh and carcass of a young sheep. The flavor is better and it is more tender than mutton, flesh of older sheep. Sheep are very important animals because they provide both food and clothing for us.

Sheep are typically timid and defenseless. Thus, they need shepherds to keep them safe from predators. Just as they depend on their shepherd, Christians also are under the protection of our Shepherd, Jesus Christ. Not all sheep are domestic. Some are wild and closely resemble wild goats in physical appearance and their daring and self-reliant behavior. Many people are also like these who think that they can make it on their own.

Lamb is an ancient symbol of Spring and is eaten at Easter. It is a symbol of Christ. Many Bible references are made concerning this



symbolism. "Behold the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sins of the world" (John 1:29). He was the lamb sacrificed on the cross for our sins. It was only by that sacrifice that we are redeemed as quoted in I Peter 1:18,19, "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things...But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb

without blemish and without spot."

That same Jesus not only died for man's sin, but was also resurrected and is living. He lives in heaven where he's preparing a place for us. He also can dwell in each person's heart if one only believes in Him. Those of you who are not Christians, why don't you allow this perfect Lamb to enter your heart and remove those dark spots of sin? If you are a Christian, please show to others that the cross did not end everything. It is only the beginning of life eternal.

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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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ANSWERS DOWN

1. Jerusalem
6. Capernaum
7. Nazareth
8. Sychar
9. Bethany
10. Bethlehem

ANSWERS ACROSS

1. Jericho
2. Gennesaret
3. Nain
4. Cana
5. Bethsaida

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