Lyd, 28, 79-Pastor's Pen

How would you like to have your life changed from that of a nominal Christian to one of purpose! To one that has an appetite for the things of God. Why is it that so many Christians do not have the joy they might have, or do not have overflowing praise in their hearts?

I want to tell you about Robert E. Nicholas, of Oak Park, Illinois. Born on a farm in Ontario, Canada 1882, the eldest son in a large family of boys and girls. His parents were earnest Christians and reared their family in the local Methodist Church. At age 19 Robert went to Chicago and found work in a hardware store. He received the great wages of a dollar a day - six dollars for a week of sixty hours work. He carefully tithed his weekly wages and used the rest on room rent and daily meals. He became active in church, busy in Sunday School and witnessing for his Saviour.

Five years after coming to Chicago he established his own hardware business on largely borrowed capital. Hard work led to building one of the largest retail hardware businesses in the State of Illinois. He was instrumental in bringing branches of the large department stores into the "Chicago Loop".

This young and aggressive merchant was confronted by a preacher who inquired, "Mr. Nicholas, have you given your life completely to God?" So effective was the inquiry that he fell on his knees at once. His heart smitten with conviction that he should consecrate himself wholly to the Lord. "I yielded my life without reservation to God. I was filled with praise and rejoicing. I became hungry for the return of the Lord Jesus.

This experience can happen in your life and you can be changed from a nominal Christian. The key to such a change is full surrender of the life to the Saviour. The Holy Spirit will grant fullness of joy. "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." Phil. 2:13. Helping you to want to obey him and helping you do what He wants!



There are no exceptions to the general rule. A man must labor, either with the head or the hand. The rich have toiled early and late for a time of ease and round of pleasure. The poor have gone on in drudgeries hoping to escape hardsdhips. The President of this country is beset with cares and labor that the poor do not

have to contend with.

Labor may be a burden, but it is also an honor and a glory. Without it nothing can be accomplished. Many of the things that man counts as precious are acquired only through labor. Without it all civilization would relapse into barbarism. It brings happiness and makes roses blossom in your garden. It plants seed and gathers the grain to feed the nations. It picks the cotton and weaves it into clothes. It builds the house and provides the handiwork for the gorgeous palace.

The dignity of labor is progress and happiness for man. Someone has said, "Life is a short day; but it is a working day, and not a holiday." This is most important in all occupations of

life.

Life to some is drudgery; to some it is pain; to some it is pleasure; but

to all, work.

Men and women who have not learned to work are poor creatures. Those who depend on others for support and fail to do their share miss the key to happiness. Overwork may be hurtful, and hard work may be injurious. However, to be properly employed in a job for which one has been properly trained is healthful. A person in the right place and with skillful ability can contribute his quota of endeavor towards the gen-eral well being in which he shares.

If your occcupation is not so highsounding as you would like, still it is better to work faithfully at this until opportunity opens the door to something higher. The most illustrious names in history were hard workers. To be idle, and fail to do your work is neither an honor nor a privilege. "As the door turneth upon his hinges, so doth the slothful upon his bed."

Prov. 26:14.



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We exchanged greetings and she said, "I am glad that you are here to conduct the service." Her last words were "May God Bless You!"

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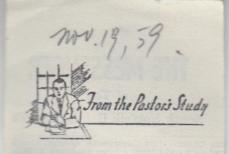
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We are all equal in death; the king and the peasant, the rich and the poor are all alike in this respect. Death is universal and there is no way we can exchange the time of our departure. In the light of eternity we can be prepared. We can take hold of that glorious hope in Christ Jesus.

"May God Bless You!"



I found the story of Henry Cloud as told by my father-in-law very enlightening. It centered around the worship of peyote beans.

The Indians would collect peyote beans which in turn were put out in the sun to dry. They were often referred to as buttons.

The Indian men would gather for a P. O. party. At the party they would sit around and chew on these buttons. After a while they would fall out and dream of colors. Many of them worshipped the buttons.

Henry Cloud went off to a college up north. Some Indians from the Navajo tribe wanted him to become the leader of a new religion. This new religion was to center around the peyote beans, or buttons.

Cloud decided to talk it over with one of the college professors. He pointed out how the buttons were used as a narcotic. The professor began to laugh and said, "You mean after all of your training and intelligence, you are going to lead in a religion worshipping a button?" The professor laughed him down. This changed Cloud's mind and he later became an evangelical missionary among his peo-

Worshipping buttons does sound diculous, but what about some of ridiculous, but what about some of the other things people worship? The little brown god of tobacco has be-come the idol of millions.

Recently, a young mother that I know said, "I've smoked my last cigarette." I do not need to go into the details as to how she was a slave to the god of tobacco. Why don't you stop worshipping this god? He knows that your breath is rotten and your clothes smell like a camel! I dare you to stop worshipping this little god!



There is another interesting story which my father-in-law liked to tell concerning the Indians of Oklahoma.

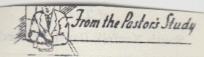
This one involved around a Comanche chief by the name of Quanch Parker. The chief represented his tribe in matters relative to their tribal laws and also in legal ties with other nations. When the west was being settled and Oklahoma was coming into statehood, many of the tribal laws were affected. Parker made a trip to Washington to talk with the law-makers and discuss the position of his tribe. In one of these conferences the commissioner of Indian Affairs told the Chief that they were under new laws now and that many of the tribal laws were null and void. He especially pointed out the one on the number of wives a man could have. Parker had five wives at that time. He was informed that he must go back home and get rid of all except one. He was urged to do this because of his example. Chief Quanch Parker walked over to the window and thought a long time. He then turned to the Commissioner and said, "Mr. Commissioner, you go tell 'um." The task of telling four wives to leave was too big a risk for a chief.

The first home in the Bible was based on monogamy, one man and one woman for life. In this plan God provided the ideal plan for the propagation of the race.

The plan of God has certainly been by-passed, over and over again by multitudes. Two, three, and four by multitudes. marriages are common in our society. Somebody needs "to go tell 'um!"

Think how clean you will feel, figure out how much money you will save, consider your influence over others. And by the way, friend, this god not only ruins your teeth and breath, but many times plants a cancer in your lungs.

You may think that Henry Cloud had lost his buttons, but what about



The story of Whitehorse as told me by my father-in-law was a real gem. An Indian by the name of Whitehorse came to his father, who Whitehorse came to his father, who was also a preacher, and asked about getting married. His father reminded Whitehorse that he already had one wife, and that he would not perform the ceremony for him. This caused the Indian to become angry. He told some fellows, "I'll get that preacher." About six months later his father went seven miles through the timber land to work on a church building.

went seven miles through the timber land to work on a church building. On his way home he felt uneasy as he rode horseback through the wooded area. He began to sing aloud "Jesus Lover of My Soul." When he had finished, he felt better.

Some time later Whitehorse was saved in a meeting and gave a testimony. He testified how that one night he knew the preacher was coming through the woods and he hid behind a tree with a rifle planning

behind a tree with a rifle planning to kill him. But when he heard the singing he said, "I couldn't shoot." Later on after his conversion, he surrendered to preach.

This entire story centered around the fact that the preacher would not sanction Whitehorse's Sin. How different today — we have forgotten God's original plan of one woman and one man. The general public has just recently been bombarded with a name from Hollywood in a sensational manner. The man had had several wives plus many other women. In fact the woman he was living with at the time of his death was not his wife. Yet, he was rated as a great hero. This tells us that our moral

standards today have departed widely from God's commandments. A clear call must be sounded to personal chastity, purity in thought and word, loyalty to marriage vows, and a higher level of morality.



I was amused with the story of Frank Hall Wright, an Indian Evangelist, as related by my father-in-law. It seems that Wright traveled among the tribes conducting camp meetings (similar to our revival meetings, except many times the camp meeting was accompanied by much eating).

The unique thing I remember he said about Wright was his custom of

dressing up for the evening meal. My father-in-law stated that Wright had lived for some time in the east where he developed his habit. This was quite a contrast to the Indians' customs, some of whom seldom changed gar-ments even once each week. He ex-plained that Wright dressed up to honor God and demonstrate that Christians should be clean.

The Bible has something to say about our garments and our manner of dress. However, in this modern age people see how near undressed they can appear in public. The way Frank Hall Wright dressed impressed the Indians. The way you dress or the Indians. The way you dress, or do not dress, impresses people today. Half dressed men and women on the streets and in the stores will never win this world to Christ. Such dress

inspires the worship of Baal—just the flesh and the like.

One of the first things God gave attention to in the Garden of Eden was providing proper clothes for Adam and Eve. However, today many have reverted back to fig leaf dress. Think of the impression this makes upon the public! It causes one to seriously question the intentions of some women who parado in fig leaf some women who parade in fig leaf attire. Why not join the worthy woman, "who maketh herself coverwoman, "who maketh nersell coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple". So Proverbs describes a well-dressed woman.

Brethren and Sisters, take heed to your habits of dress. One step further, dress up in clothes from the manufactor of the step silvers of the step silvers of the step silvers of the step step silvers of the step silve

wardrobe suggested in Ephesians six and you will be considered a welldressed person.

Jesus said, "Go out into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in." (Luke 14:23)

FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY

Time seems to be one of our biggest problems when it comes to getting the things done that need our

I am reminded of the story father-in-law told me about an Indian by the name of Raleigh. He related how his father went to visit Raleigh, how his father went to visit Raleigh, who was very ill with tuberculosis. At the close of their visit, the Indian asked to see his father's watch. His father pulled out his cheap pocket watch for him to examine. Then Raleigh reached under his pillow and brought forth a fine gold snap case time piece. His father estimated it to be worth \$150.00. Raleigh said, "I want you to have this. I will not need want you to have this, I will not need time much longer." A few days later the Indian died.

There comes a day when time runs out for all of us and we, too, will have no need for it any longer. Time can mean a lot of things to us if used properly. It can mean money for come pleasure for others blessings some, pleasure for others, blessings, joy, heartache, sin, or just wasted. You determine how much of the time you possess will be used. We are aware that much of your time has already been prodetermined. Such as already been predetermined. Such as time for eating, sleeping, getting an education, etc.

education, etc.
Yet, you are the master of much time. It is your privilege to decide how many hours of your day will be wasted or used wisely. Some day, time will be no more for you. Therefore God's admonition is, "Redeeming the time because the days are evil." the time, because the days are evil. Ephesians 5:16.



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from the PASTOR'S PEN

"I Sing," echoed in the sanctuary as two year old Mary Ann Clements made her gallant announcement after the Worship Service. To show that she was on pitch, she proceeded in removing the coat and hat, mounting the steps, and taking the position of an alto in the choir loft. Mary Ann proclaimed, "I Sing!"

There came to mind a sermon in this simple illustration by a child. What if adults were as willing and forthright in doing God's work? There is real intellectuality in action taken by little children. No one had to twist her arm or conscript her. It would be a beautiful thing if each Christian in accepting the Lordship of Christ would freely say, "I Sing," "I Serve," "I Teach," "I Visit."

Dr. E. B. Allen tells how a kindergarten teacher gave up her work in the public schools of a Mid-West city to go out as a missionary. Her children were interested in her new work and wanted her to know about it. One of the girls wrote to the missionary's father afterward, and said, "We talk about her to Jesus every night when we go to bed." It was a beautiful ex-pression of child faith, and one of the most natural Christian things to do. A child has a philosophic mind in

A child has a philosophic mind inquiring into gigantic tasks with ease. One little girl seeing her mother peel a radish for the first time said: "Ma-

ma, undress my radish."
Yes, think of the possibilities wrapped up in these little lives. They are like little sunbeams that kiss the earth and cause the violet to bloom at your feet. We have a wonderful church. In the face of Mary Ann shine the light of a glorious future, "I Sing." Tell the Lord what you intend to do for Him.



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Pastor's Pen

"How to always have enough of everything." 2 Cor. 9. Does that statement sound impossible? God has made the world full of beautiful, wonderful things and has promised in Heaven to provide for every need.

A certain little city boy wanted a dog, and wanted one terribly, as only a boy can want a dog. The family lived in an apartment house, a poor place, unfit for a dog! The boy, however, insisted until his father yielded and bought him a little Terrier.

A dog proved to be a great nui sance. It carried off shoes, soiled the rug, tore up valuable clothing, chewed the covering off the chairs, and finally, began to trouble the neighbor's children. The father tried to sell the dog, but could not. Then he tried to give it away, but no one would have it as a gift. Finally, in desperation he said, "I am going to hire a man to take that dog out and shoot him."

The little boy, broken-hearted, begged his father for two days of grace to see if he could dispose of his pet.

On the afternoon of the second day the lad came running in and joyfully shouted to his mother, "Oh, Mama, I got rid of the dog all right!"

The mother, was filled with pleasure and surprised at the news. She exclaimed, "I'm so glad! How did you do it?"

"Oh, it was easy; I traded Spot for five puppies!"

The deal of the boy had enabled his family to have enough of everything including dogs. There are many times when we feel there is a shortage



John Wesley, a Methodist, was asked why he preached so often on "ye must be born again". He answered, "Because ye must be born again". Have you been born again? Without the new birth you have no hope of escaping the terrors of Hell or enjoying the glories of Heaven.

The question that you are interested in is a logical one, "How can I have this new birth? Nicodemus asked Jesus that question and in John 3:3 the answer came "Except, a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God.'

The Bible says there is nothing in you that can produce the new birth. There are no human devices or schemes or even joining the church that can produce the new birth. The Bible says that our old nature is totally corrupt - Rom. 3:23. There is an old story of the farmer who had a pig and a lamb. The farmer brought the pig into the house. He gave him a bath, polished his hoofs, put some Chanel No. 5 on him, put a ribbon around his neck, and put him in the living room. The pig looked fine. He almost seemed to be acceptable to society and to friends that might come in, he was so fresh and clean. He made a very nice and companionable pet for a few minutes. But as soon as the door opened, the pig left the living room and jumped into the first mud puddle that he could find. Why? Because he was still a pig at heart. His nature had not been changed. He had been changed outwardly but not inwardly.

Take a lamb, on the other hand. Put a lamb in a living room and then turn him out into the yard, and he will try his best to avoid all mud puddles. Why? Because his nature is that of a lamb.

The moment you are born again your nature is changed. You will have a different attitude toward sin. God hates sin and you will also hate sin. You will want to obey God. You will be separated from the world, There will be a love in your heart for the unsaved. You will no longer practice sin. Therefore, Wesley, the Methodist, was right when he preached. "Ye must be born again."



What we need is another Bible Water Gate! The Dean of Water Gate, better known as John W., has given an account of the strategy and tactics during the last Presidential Campaign.
The Dean made public a "political enemies list" and noted how they were to be pressured. The testimony given by this White House servant could

very well be his Waterloo.

All will admit that we have had a flood tide, and Water Gate is just one more revalation of what the new more morality and sex-revolution is creating

in America.

What America needs as she celebrates the anniversary of the "Declaration of Independence' is a return to what took place in Jerusalem

hundreds of years ago.

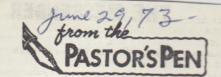
It took place before the Water Gate. The people gathered in the street for a hearing. It was carried in the street for a hearing. live with all political and religious leaders present. All of the citizens were interested in the investigation. They wanted to know what the book

of the law had to say. (Today we obstruct and cover up the law).

At the Water Gate hearing the people said bring The Book! Nehemiah has just restored the walls, repaired, has just restored the walls, repaired, and re-hung the Water Gate and the next thing is to have the word of God read. "Bring the Book", Sir Walter Scott pleaded as he lay dying. "What book?" said his servant. "There is only one book, The Bible", was the

famous response.

The beloved Johns-Dean, Ehrlichman, and Mitchell in the present crisis over Water Gate would do well to call for more than the law book. There would be great profit in asking for the Holy Book and hear "Thus saith the Lord". The hearing of God's word brought great joy to the people because they understood what God want ed done, and there was very great gladness. Let us pray for another Bible Water Gate and turn the whole nation back to God. Nehemiah 8:1-18.



"Time was is past-Thou canst not it recall;

Time is Thou hast-employ the portion small:

Time future is not, and may never be; Time present is the only time for

How precious are a few moments of time. They are like a great treasure when rightly used.

Every man has a duty of making fruitful the portion of time which is his. He should think about himself and the care and happiness of others. He must improve himself and provide for his necessities. One of the most important obligations is his accountability to God. God bestows upon us this valuable gift of time and we shall turn it into an advantage for his Glory.

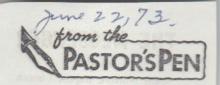
A great man once called his time an estate. There are few that prize it until it is nearly squandered, when life is fast waning, they begin to think of spending the hours wisely. I remind you that habits of idleness and procrastination once fixed cannot be suddely thrown off.

The most precious thing in all the world beyond your "souls salvation" is your time. Men live like the prodigal and soon they have wasted the substance of life.

Man must in every department of life use his time rightly. This includes work time, liesure moments, and the whole bundle of life. If man is to accomplish something important in his life he must not permit trifles to bottle up his time. The object of life is not to kill time with frivilous useless undertakings.

I think you should thank God if you have a busy life. A purpose and mission to which you are actively engaged. It is dangerous for a man to be idle and imagine that leisure is the thing life is made out of.

The brevity of life bids you to economize on the precious fragments of your time. The Bible reminds us to "redeem the time" and puts the focus on words such as "Now and today"!



Run, Jonah, Run-The Watergate affair is a losing race. It is a wasted journey to think that one can escape the truth. It is a waste of time to dig every individual citizen in the country for some thread of evidence.

Jonah years ago found out to run from God is a losing race. However, there are some people who have to run this race for themselves. Everyday there are people running in an effort to escape God and his call.

Each of us has sought to escape God at some point in life. You know where you have held back. You know the thoughts of self-pity that have closed in upon you. Like the prophet your whole life has become nearsighted and narrow.

What a wasted trip! We ran all that way trying to escape God. You though you had escaped God, but you didn't. How much better it would have been if we had realized that we cannot

escape God.

The call of God comes to us to commit our possessions, our love, and our service to him. So we run away and retreat into the world refusing to yield our possessions, our love, and service. Jonah found misery in the walls of the fish's stomach as he was closed in. Then in desperation, he cried to God for release.

The prophet found out that he had

never really escaped God and was led back into God's plan for his life.

Running from God is a daily event.

However it seems to be a real sport during the summertime! Vacation time is no time for a Jonah experience—use every Lord's Day for its intended nurnase. ed purpose.



Robert B. Semple in his history of the "Rise and Progress of the Bap-tists in Virginia', said Virginia Bap-tists originated from three sources.

"Frst, the emigrants from England, who about the year 1714, settled in the southeastern part of the state.

"Second, another party came from Maryland and formed a settlement in the northwest.

"Third, a party from New Eng-

land."

The New Eigland group were distinguished by the Great Awakening. A work of God broke out as a result of the preaching of Whitefield and others. This spread and the group separated themselves from the estab-lishd churches. "Into this body more were admitted who did not profess vital religion."

Thomas White and Robert Nordin were ordained in London in May 1714,

and soon sailed for Virginia.

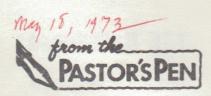
White died during the voyage across the ocean. Nordin gathered a group and held a meeting in Prince George County. June 14, 1715, the Court of Prince George County li-Court of Prince George County li-censed Nordin as "Annabaptist Preacher" and the home of Mathew Marks as a public meeting house.

The Pungo Church in Norfolk Bapthe Pungo Church in Nortolk Baptist Association is among the oldest churches in Virginia. "The location of Pungo Church was near Back Bay in the lower section of Princess Anne County. They were an arm originally of Shiloh Church, in Camden County, N.C. The name of the church was changed in 1865 to Oak Grove, and under this title they still exist." under this title they still exist."

"The Virginia Churches met by

their delegates for the first time, May 1791, at Portsmouth, and on that account named their association the Virginia Portsmouth Association" so Virginia Portsmouth Association" so states Semple. This meeting in the Norfelk area took place at the time when the Kehukee Association agreed to divide at the N.C. line, leaving 42 churches in N.C. and 19 in Virginia. The South Norfolk Church was organized in 1893 A house of worship was built the year before. Give thanks to God for blessing Baptist work.

Baptist work.



Never was there a time when so much news print has been taken up with one issue. The Watergate news has been covered by every newspaper and magazine in the country. Every little scrap of information has been printed including information has been printed, including hear-say gossip!

The grand jury is now trying to put part of the blame on former Atty. Gen. John N. Mitchell. If this condemnation Mitchell, For he has given his life up should come to pass this could prove to be a strange experience for Mr. holding the laws of the land.

In my reading I discovered in an old book the following story.

"John Marshall, famous Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, once climbed up

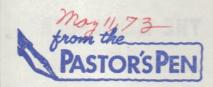
of the Supreme Court, once climbed up on a ladder in his library to get a law book from the topmost shelf. The eminent jurist was then very old and rather feeble. And when several books stuck be turged and the whole row came down he tugged and the whole row came down on his head, he as quite naturally bowlon his head, he as quite hattifally bowled right over on the floor. Hearing the crash, his servant rushed to the library. He found his master sitting on the floor under the avalanche, laughing heartily and rubbing himself ruefully.

"Well, well," he chuckled. "I've been have down the law for a good many

"Well, well," he chuckled. "I've been laying down the law for a good many years, but this is the first time I have ever been laid down by the law."

This is what we call turning the tables. Political sabotage may prove very costly. Ladies and gentlemen in the area of morals you have to go straight. Paul has a word for us in I Cor. 9:27. "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: least that by any means, when I have preached to others. I mywhen I have preached to others, I my-self should be a castaway."

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I read about a man last week who has given his wife a new name. He now calls his wife Watergate, because she's always bugging him!

Now permit me to put all jokes aside and say that with Mother's Day coming up the home is the most delightful place on earth. There is really nothing that can excell the peace, affection, and happiness of a well-ordered family.

The home circle when rooted in the best soil and nourished and cultivated brings forth the most beautiful flowers.

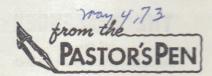
It is around the memories of the home circle that cluster some of the happiest recollections of youth. There are the thoughts of each member of the family; of childish sorrow and grief; of the Mother's prayers and the Father's blessings. Years may pass yet these sweet memories linger in the chambers of the mind.

Home has been the center of the happenings of life. It requires the love of every member in the family circle. It requires the tears of sympathy in times of sickness, trouble, or affliction.

Another thing to remember is that most of our habits are formed in the home. Love and truth along with tender feelings are transmitted in the family circle. We discover that even imperfections are interwoven in the Father, Mother, and child.

Let us determine to guard against the things which unite the members of the family. Discord and strife should be banished from the fireside. The great lever by which the heart is moved is love. Heavenly peace is found in homes where the spirit of love presides. Courtesy prevails and joy becomes a permanent force.

Mother's Day is a time of reflection, and rededication to the noble foundations of our homes.



"For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not anything." Ecc. 9:5.

I conducted the funeral service for Mrs. Mary Williams. She left instructions for the service. The poem "A Rosebud For The Living" according to her plans was to be read. She was a kind woman and tried to give flowers to the living. She was extravagant with her hospitality in making people welcome in her home. While she lived she sought to show her appreciation and good will towards all.

Let me share with you part of her last request — "A Rosebud For The Living."

I would rather have a rosebud
While I am here to see,
Than have the costliest flowers
Placed on my grave for me.

I would rather have a rosebud
A tribute of today,
Than have the richest laurels
When I have passed away.

I would rather have a kindly smile
From hearts forever true,
Than tears around my lifeless form
When earth I've bade adieu.

I would rather have the kindest words
Than can be said to me,
Than flattered when me heart is still,
And Life has ceased to be.

Then give me a rosebud sweet,
A rosebud pink or red;
I'd rather have just one today,
Than millions when I'm dead.

- Henrietta Blair Heard



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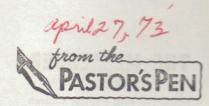
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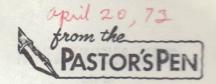
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About a century ago a skeptic called upon the poet Coleridge and inveighed acid tongue against the indoctrinition of children in the basic tenets of the Christnia religion. "Consider", he said, "The helplessness of a little child. Before it has the wisdom of judgement to arrive at decisions for itself, it is prejudiced in favor of Christanity. How selfish is the parent who stamps his own concepts of religion into a child's heart as a ranchman stamps his brand into an animal's quivering flesh! I shall prejudice my children neither for Christanity or any other religion, nor for unbelief, but allow them to wait for their mature years. Then they can decide the question of what religion for themselves. Let them choose.

Coleridge did not make an immediate reply. Presently, howover, as they walked he guided his guest's steps into his garden. As they ambled through the well kept paths that divided the flowers and the vegetables into their trim little beds, Coleridge suddenly exclaimed: "How selfish is the garden who ruthlessly stamps his prejudice in favor of roses and strawberries into the receptive garden bed. In each Spring I pulled the thistles and planted the garden with flowers and vegetables, but now I have decided to permit the garden to go untouched until September. Then the black clods may choose for themselves between weeds and strawberries. Let the garden decide for itself what it will grow."

You know, and I know, this would be foolish. The weeds would soon assert an unrelenting worfare and there would be no flowers or strawberries. Therefore, the old proverb is true, "As the twig is bent the tree is inclined". Children need direction in Christanity, both training and example.



Shall I use the short form or the long form? Good old 1040 is not a signal used by the football team, it is the number that taxes the possessions of every American. 1040 is like a race horse. He is an animal that can take several thousand people for a ride at the same time.

It is a real experience to sit down with this classic document known as Form 1040. Every one gets out cancelled checks, W-2 forms, social security forms, and figures out profit and loss. There is no literary flourish to the style; nor high-sounding options. The grand scheme of the form does not permit political freedom.

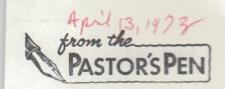
The form needs no interpretation. Name, number, and what you are worth covers the commentary. The government simply declares we have a sympathetic interest in what you have in your pocket.

Finally you have "crammed 1040 and left the results with the post office.

There is one final figure lingering in your mind. Is this all I have? Is this all I have received during the year? Is this all my life consists of? You have just listed your possessions. The things taxable, are these the only things I possess?

Turn with me to God's 1040 in the book of Acts and discover true riches. "Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly." Have you filed this declaration? The resurrection of Jesus speaks to us of a treasure to be thankful for. For real life, and real living are not related to how much I have in my pocket. Real life is bound up in the Easter season not the tax season.

Be thankful that you can sit down and list Acts 10:40 as your real treasure. This is beyond all taxation.



The ladies have given the markets a "cold shoulder" this past week. Some of the packing places who "cut throats" of animals and pocketbooks have been impressed by the meatless days.

By the way, did you ever get "the could shoulder?" In all probability you have, and in a number of ways. I have often wondered about the expression and its origin. With a little research here is what I found.

Wandering Knights in Old England were welcomed at any castle with a piping hot meal. A common traveler received only a plate of cold meat — frequently from a shoulder of lamb. Hence the commoner got "the cold shoulder" — or less than the best treatment.

My point this week is don't give the Easter Season a "cold shoulder." This is the one place in Christianity where a "hot meal" is served. The resurrection of Jesus is the place where man can find "the best treatment" The hope of eternal life. You can not find anything anyplace that will equal that promise.

Without this Easter hope, all is vain. Paul wrote in I Corinthians 15:12-20 "why is it some of you say among yourselves there is no resurrection of the dead? (Giving the resurrection a "cold shoulder"). If Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Yea and we are found false witnesses of God. . . Faith is vain and ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. . . . But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that slept."

Your life will be empty, worthless and hopeless if you give the resurrection "the cold shoulder." Worship the risen Lord this Easter and receive a hot meal with the early disciples who said "our hearts felt strangely warm as he met with us following His resurrection!" Luke 24:32.

Pastor's Pen

Have you ever thought about a good motto for your life? Did you ever make a choice about spiritual things and make it stick? Are you just drifting along with the tide and floating around bumping into other drifting objects.

The Duke of Wellington once attended a lecture where an articulate Theologian was denouncing missions. He contended that missions was a drain on the churches. Missionaries often caused chaos and strife as primitive native cultures submitted to the change brought by the Gospel. He concluded that it would be better to allow them to continue in their unconverted ways.

After a few moments the Duke asked, "What were the final orders our Master left?"

"Well," stammered the speaker, "He said to go into all the world and make Disciples."

"That is the way I've always understood it," came the Duke's reply. "I'm no Theologian. I'm a soldier, and as a soldier I know that my first duty is to carry out my commander's orders. When my commander gives me marching orders, I march. All I can say to you, Sir, is look to your marching orders!"

In connection with God's plan for every life I read a letter by Henry Wright of Yale. The message was addressed to his mother in 1907. Speaking of a desire for larger usefulness, he said, "I have taken as my motto Christ's Words, "For their sakes I sanctify myself." "Their sakes" — that is, the men of Yale — "I sanctify myself" — in this case more mental discipline, to be able to help them, when I return."

What about your motto in life, do you know what marching orders the Master left? Have you ever said for "His sake" I sanctify myself? Don't you think it's about time for you to find out God's plan for the present and the future.

Annie Mae Tayloe was a woman with a motto — "Doing the best I can for Jesus every day." This little woman, weighing less than a hundred pounds was heavy on God's scales. Always in Sunday School and Worship Services. Did you know faithfulness to the church does not happen without a choice. Tie your life to a worthwhile motto.

Pastor's Pen

Easter belongs to you! The people of God have the same word "Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen." Matt. 25:5-6. This message belongs to you!

Corrie Ten Boom in The Hiding Place tells of meeting a former S. S. guard from the concentration camp at Ravensbruck. He had been hateful and cruel to Corrie and her sister, Betsie, during their imprisonment. After her release, Corrie went everywhere, and especially in Germany, speaking the message of God — forgiveness.

After one of these meetings the guard came to her and extending his hand said, "Fraulein, thank you for your message." Corrie says she felt her hand go stiff. She had just talked about forgiving our enemies and now she had to do it. She struggled to smile. She felt no love for this man who stood there extending his hand. "How can I forgive him, Jesus?" Then she breathed an inward prayer born of God's conquering love: "Give me your forgiveness." Corrie Ten Boom was then enabled to reach out and touch the hand of him whom she had despised.

When you claim Easter as your very own, "The Resurrection and the life" becomes yours. The power of forgiveness is yours in Christ, and the conquoring love enables you to forgive others. Easter belongs to you – receive it – then share it!



The old steam engine might as well move out of the Norfolk area. The city of Norfolk is in the process of shutting off the water supply of outlying communities. However, they have offered to supply water under certain conditions for a period of twenty five years.

While this thing is in the air, the residents are probably following Nahum's advice, "Draw thee water for the siege." Nahum 3:14.

There were times like this in Bible days. In Genesis 26:18 the Philistines tried to cut off the water supply which had been provided by Abraham. The scripture says, "Isaac digged again the wells of water."

During the days of Amos he stated that "two or three cities wandered unto one city to drink water." (4:8) Thus there were some cities without a good supply of water.

On one occasion Ezekiel in describing an event in history said, "and the south side southward, from Tamar even to the waters of strfie in Kadish." (47:19) He was talking about the water that was bitter in the wilderness, and the people could not drink it. Therefore, he rightly designated it as "waters of strife."

In years to come, no doubt, some prophet will refer to the Norfolk, Virginia Beach, and South Norfolk water battle as "waters of strife". It would appear that these new cities are going to have to duplicate the great feat of Hezekiah. "And the rest of the acts of Hezekiah and all his might, and how he made a pool and a conduit, and brought water into the city" 2 Kings 20:20. He built a reservoir and piped water into his city.

While cities wrangle over water supply and rates, let us not forget the most important water is free. Jesus said, "Whosoever drinketh of this water that I shall give him shall never thirst." John 4:14.

Pastor's Pen

News came early on Labor Day morn of the death of Mrs. Frances M. Simpson. Very soon I was on my way to the home and tried to share in this burden of loss.

On this National Holiday this mother had completed her labor on this earth and had entered the haven of rest. Work is probably one of the chief blessings of mankind. Work is the exercise of whatever talents we may have in service for others. It is one of the high spots in the life of the growing youth, when he discovers that he has a contribution to make to the world's work. Helen Keller said, "I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish humble tasks as though they were great and noble. The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker."

Mrs. Simpson gave expression to the dignity of labor for many years as a nurse. She devoted much love in her duties as a mother in the home. She went beyond the rank and file of ordinary labor in every area of her life. She stood by the side of her husband, Dr. George W. Simpson in ministering to the physical needs of our city. Few people will ever appreciate the responsibility carried by this good woman. How true the Scripture is "A woman that feareth the Lord, f she shall be praised." Prov. 31:30. 1 We praise her as a mother, wife, companion, homemaker, servant of people and for her fear of the Lord.

Though our work is imperfect here, our service in heaven will be made complete as F. R. Havergal says: "Shall serve Him, and forever; Oh, hope most sure, most fair! The perfect love outpouring In perfect service There!"

Pastor's Pen

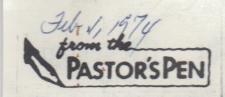
Peace rings a bell in every man's heart. Francis of Assisi prayed, "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace! Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury — pardon; where there is doubt — faith; where there is despair — hope; where there is darkness — light; where there is sadness — joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love; for it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

The President and leaders of other countries are forever involved in grinding out peace treaties. In many parts of the world we have stationed peace-keeping machinery. Many hours are given in dealing effectively with limited wars. It is not a happy thought, but historians tell us that of the last four thousand years of recorded history there have been only two hundred sixty-eight years of peace. There would be peace if the leaders of the nations would listen to the Prince of Peace.

The root of the word "peace" comes from an old Aryan word meaning, "to bind together" or "to join that which was disjointed." There will be no peace until the disjointed nations of the world are bound together in Christ.

The same holds true in a home or church. Are you ready to pray "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace?"



The Armed Forces Staff College has a new head - Rear Adm. Jeremiah A. Denton, Jr.

In taking command he said, "I have always counted God as a very important part of my life. I have always felt accountable to God every minute of the day."

This is a remarkable statement by one who was taken prisoner July, 1965 in Vietnam. When he returned to freedom in February, 1973, he endeared himself to our nation when he proclaimed: "God bless America".

Rear Adm. Denton is a fine, strong, consecrated, true-living Christian. He is an example for young men today. We need to take the good dollar and let the counterfeit go. This is common sense. All men need to take God into account. All men need to know that they are accountable to God every minute of the day.

A man like this will be able to cast a shadow for God in this world. In the book of Acts - Chapter 5:15, we read about Peter having great influence. Even sick people were placed on mats on the sidewalk, so that Peter's shadow would fall across some of them as he passed by. In life every man has the possibility of casting a shadow that will help. It may be a quiet thing and the mighty forces in life are quiet. For this shadow to be of help to others a man must live the right kind of life. In fact, he must get in the light if he wants to cast a shadow.

Since you are accountable to God every minute of the day why not encourage someone today. Try to win somebody to Jesus. Be sure to cast a shadow that will bless and help.