

Seeking Out

The Old Paths

Volume 12 Issue 2

February 2006

The Lord's Song In Strange Lands

The Hebrew people were a music loving people. The harp, a stringed instrument played with the fingers, was in common use in the early days of Hebrew history. It was used in the temple. David played a harp in the service of King Saul. They played upon a harp to accompany themselves as they sang. During the Babylonian Exile their captors required of them a song. But the Psalmist tells us they sat down by the rivers of Babylon and wept. They hung their harps on the willow trees by the river and lamented, "How shall we sing the Lord's Song in a strange land?"

It would be difficult to sing while in captivity. However, it was true then and is true now, the Lord's Song needs to be heard in strange lands. Their harps were hung on the willow trees of uselessness and the Lord's Song was not heard.

What is meant by the Lord's Song? Not only one of inspired utterance, however beautiful or sacred, but all such Psalms and hymns as they sang in their happy homeland. The

Lord's Song includes those many sweet songs which may have no words, but are sung in the heart of God's people, to their great joy and help. In every case, whether with or without words, it is a song of the heart; the lips alone can never sing the Lord's Song, for such a song is not alone to the Lord, but from the Lord, inspired by His Spirit and taught by His grace.

The call for a song may have meant "an exhortation to forget a lost home, and make the best of a new country;" but the Psalmist was in no mood to respond to such an exhortation.

The Christians harp has no business on the willows. We live in the midst of many strange lands and although we do not realize it, some of them hold us captive. Let us look at some of these strange lands.

We as Christians sometimes come into the "Strange Land of Complacency." Many Christians live there. They seem willing to just coast along, and follow the path of least

resistance. We have to be careful not to be self satisfied with just going to church, or just paying tithes. God wants us to grab the "Harp of Dedication," and go beyond the ordinary, to dwell in the land of extraordinary.

As we journey through strange lands, we also come into the "Strange Land of Inconsistency." It is here we find people living up an down experience. In one day, out the next. They say "I don't even know if I'm saved or not. It doesn't have to be this way. You need to take the "Harp of Faith and Dependability," and change the land to a "Land of Consistency."

The next land is the "Strange Land of Lack of Interest." Many Christians are here. They have no desire to do the things of God. They care for me, my, self, and I, and that's it! Us four and no more! We should get a burden to knock on some doors, or ask people at Wal-Mart to come to church.

Continued on page 4

"We are journeying unto the place of which the LORD said, I will give it you: come thou with us, and we will do thee good." Numbers 10:29

Dryden Road
Pentecostal Church
3201 Dryden Road
Dayton, Ohio 45439
298-6555

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School - 10 A.M.

Morning Worship - 11 A.M.

Evangelistic Service - 6 P.M.

TUESDAY

Youth Service - 7:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY

Prayer Service - 10 A.M.

THURSDAY

Family Service - 7:30 P.M.

“Where A Warm
Welcome Awaits You...
In This Church We
Teach Holiness Too...”

Pastor
Bennie D. Sutherland
Editor
Frank Lindsey

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Around Home

Prayer List

Please remember the following people in our church who need a touch from the Lord.

Patsy Roberts, Verna Williams, Edna Pelfrey, Demia Abner, Ruby Carpenter, Sharon Whitley, Vee McElhaney, Martha Combs, Betty Roberts, Bessie Richmond, Evelyn Houston, Brenda Houston, Donna Maggard, Richard Curtis, Opal Houston, Odie Boggs, Holly Ward, Rachel Thompson, Steve Phillips, Carl Henson, and Ray Driscoll.

We extend our sympathy to Brother and Sister Carpenter on the loss of their Grandson, Nicholas Carpenter.

Our sympathy to Brother Richard Curtis on the passing of his wife, Sister Willadean Curtis.

Our sympathy to Brother Denver & Sister Betty Griffiths. Brother Griffiths Mother, Eunice Griffiths passed away.

Our sympathy to Sister Leola Huffman, whose Father, Bentley Allen, passed away.

February Birthday's

Denny Blevins.....	3
Shirley Welch.....	8
Holly Ward.....	11
Jacob Bishop.....	13
Karan Hatcher.....	14
Michael Alexander.....	16
Frank Estes.....	17
Wayne Farmer.....	20
Courtney Spencer.....	21
Kim Templeton.....	25
Phyllis Burr.....	29

Anniversaries

Richard & Tina Travis.....	12
Rodney & Sarah Boyd.....	13
Jeff & Holly Ward.....	20

Pastor Appreciation

Pastor's Appreciation will be celebrated March 9 - 12. Services will be at 7:30 nightly except Saturday which will be the appreciation dinner. Time will be announced. Sunday service is at 6 PM. Brother Alvin Dovell will be speaking.

Congratulations

Brother Kevin & Sister Brandy Allen have added a new addition to their home. Kendra Marie Allen was born January 23. Darrell & Sue Allen are the proud Grandparents.

Congratulations to Brother Brian & Sister Rachel Thompson. Hadley Rose Thompson was born January 27. Mike & Sharon Whitley, the Grandparents, are sure to spoil her.

A VIEW FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP!

By Robert F. Dotson © 2006

As I stand atop the mountain overlooking the sea,
I view the beauty below me!
Beautiful flowers growing at my feet,
Send up a fragrance so delicately sweet!
A choir of birds with melodious voice,
Seem to say to me, "Rejoice!" "Rejoice!"
My heart feels a peace it has seldom known,
For all traces of doubt and fear have flown!
I feel so rested and worry free,
That I wonder if this is really happening to me!
As my lungs capture the mountain air,
I breathe to God this humble prayer!
Dear Lord, you've brought me a mighty long way,
From the place I was to where I am today!
I thank you for the Holy Ghost You've placed inside,
Who makes all the anxious feelings subside!
I thank you, Lord for the many ways,
You have helped me through my most difficult days!
That valley was about to get the best of me.
The light at the end of the tunnel was hard to see!
My cheery smile was replaced by a frown,
For I had let the problems of life get me down.
But, though I worried, fretted, and cried,
You never even once left my side!
Lord, I didn't always understand,
You were waiting to help me with an outstretched hand.
Sometimes I feel like I've had more trouble than my share,
But, You always know how much each soul can bear.
And with each trial that takes shape,
You always provide a means of escape!
Lord, when it comes my time to go,
Back to be tried in the valley below,
Help me to hold my head up high,
Knowing You always oversee me
With Your watchful eye.

Here are a couple of great recipes for you to try from one of the great cooks at Dryden Road.

FRIED CHICKEN SUPPER

By Linda Dotson

I use 4 to 6 chicken breast. Salt, pepper and flour. Fry until done. Make up a 6 oz. box of stove top stuffing as the directions says on the box. When chicken is done take it out of the skillet. Put stove top in the skillet. Put chicken back on top. Pour a 12 oz. jar of home style chicken gravy on top. Let simmer 15 minutes.

NO MORE WEeping MERINGUE

By Linda Dotson

1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup water
3 egg whites
1 Tspn. corn starch
1 tspn. vanilla

Combine sugar and cornstarch in small pan. Add water, cook over medium heat stirring constantly until soft mounds form. Beat egg whites. Add 6 tablespoons sugar. Add cornstarch mixture, and vanilla. Beat until meringue stands in stiff peaks. Cover pie with meringue. Brown in oven.

The Lord's Song from page 1

This land is the reason church's die, and revival fires are smoldering ashes. It is the "Strange Land of Prayerlessness." In this land people are bowed down with the cares of this life. No time to pray, only to play. We don't see the urgency to pray, only when trouble arises. If we could only realize that our help is just a breath away. We could have sweet fellowship with the Trinity. We can turn this land around with The Harp of Dedicated Prayer," and turn this land into "The Land of Dependence On God."

We are also living in the "Strange Land of Tomorrow." We say, "I will do it tomorrow," and put it off. We will have time for it later, but we never do. When you kill time you must remember it has no resurrection. We can change that by using the "Land of Today" before it goes away. Make the best of each day.

The Psalmist writes, "Sing unto the Lord, bless His name; show forth His salvation from day to day." We recognize the sovereignty of God, and we experience the loving kindness of the Father in this verse. When we sing the "Lord's Song in Strange Lands," we show God's goodness to those around us. We don't have to be bowed down, we can sing the "Lord's Song."

Brother Dan Duane

I have lived to thank God that all my prayers have not been answered.

Jean Ingelow

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The Untimely Death of Mrs. Prayer Meeting!

We are sorry to announce the passing of Mrs. Prayer Meeting. She died recently at the First Neglected Church on Ho-Hum Avenue. Born many years ago in the midst of a great revival, she was strong and healthy as a child, fed largely on testimony and Bible study she grew into world-wide prominence and was one of the most influential members of the Church family.

However, in recent years Sister Prayer Meeting has been failing in health, gradually wasting away until rendered helpless by stiffness of the knees, cooling of the heart, lack of spiritual sensitivity and the concern for spiritual things. Her last whispered words were inquiring about the strange absence of her loved ones, now so busy in the market place and places of worldly amusement on Thursday evenings!

Experts, including Dr. Good Works, Dr. Socializing and Dr. Unconcerned disagree as to the fatal cause of her final illness. They all administered large doses of excuses, even ordered a last minute motivational bypass, all to no avail. A post-mortem examination showed that a deficiency of regular spiritual food, a lack of prayer and Christian fellowship, all contributed to her untimely demise.

Isaiah 64:7 "And there is none that calleth upon thy name, that stirreth up himself to take hold of thee: for thou hast hid thy face from us, and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities."

Some years ago a young man approached the foreman of a logging crew and asked for a job. "That depends," replied the foreman. "Let's see you fell this tree." The young man stepped forward and skillfully felled a great tree. Impressed, the foreman exclaimed, "Start Monday!"

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday rolled by, and Thursday afternoon the foreman approached the young man and said, "You can pick up your paycheck on the way out today."

Startled, he replied, "I thought you paid on Friday." "Normally we do," answered the foreman, "but we're letting you go today because you've fallen behind. Our daily felling charts show that you've dropped from first place on Monday to last on Wednesday."

"But I'm a hard worker," the young man objected. "I arrive first, leave last, and even have worked through my coffee breaks!"

The foreman, sensing the boy's integrity thought for a minute and then asked, "Have you been sharpening your ax?"

The young man replied, "I've been working too hard to take the time." How about you? Have you been too busy, too hard at work to sharpen your ax?

Prayer is the hone that gives you that sharp edge. Without it, the more work you do, the duller you'll get.

IS YOUR AX SHARP!

YOU MIGHT BE PENTECOSTAL IF...

1. The musicians in your church “tear it up” but can’t read sheet music.
2. You have 50 pairs of church shoes.
3. A night on the town is a birthday party.
4. The Pastor says, “With this thought I’ll close” more than 3 times a service.
5. You have respect for flying hairpins.
6. Your feet have been stomped more than 3 times in a service.
7. Your kids know how to eat any crunchy thing quietly.
8. When shopping for clothes, you always run them through the “Praise the Lord” test.
9. The employees at McDonald’s know you by name.
10. You can pronounce “Habakkuk.”
11. Your day of rest includes 2 church services, choir practice, and Golden Corral!
12. Your 2 year old runs through Wal-Mart shouting “Praise the Lord!”
13. Your hairspray bill exceeds your gas bill.
14. You go swimming in a jean skirt.
15. Growing up you baptized your cousins and siblings several times in the swimming pool.
16. The only way you wear nail polish is to stop a run in your panty-hose.
17. Running the aisle is your only form of exercise.
18. You could be an Olympic volleyball player after all the practice you’ve had from church picnics.
19. Your white choir tries to move like Kirk Franklin’s group!
20. It takes longer to take prayer request than it does to pray for them!
21. Your pastor announces EVERY Sunday night that you will be having service on Tuesday and Thursday.

In an interview with the great inventor of the Telegraph, Samuel F.B. Morse, George Hervey inquired, “Professor Morse, when you were making your experiments at the university, did you ever come to a standstill, not knowing what to do next?”

“Oh, yes, more than once.” “Then what did you do?”

“I’ve never discussed this with anyone, so the public knows nothing about it. But now that you ask me, I’ll tell you frankly -- I prayed for more light.”

“And did God give you the wisdom and knowledge you needed?”

“Yes, He did,” said Morse. “That’s why I never felt I deserved the honors that came to me from America and Europe because of the invention associated with my name. I had made a valuable application of the use of electrical power, but it was all through God’s help. It wasn’t because I was superior to other scientists. When the Lord wanted to bestow this gift on mankind, He had to use someone. I’m just grateful He chose to reveal it to me.”

In view of these facts, it’s not surprising that the inventor’s first message over the telegraph was: “*What hath God wrought!*”

Listen, my friend! Your helplessness is your best prayer. It calls from your heart to the heart of God with greater effect than all your uttered pleas. He hears it from the very moment that you are seized with helplessness, and He becomes actively engaged at once in hearing and answering the prayer of your helplessness. He hears today as He heard the helpless and wordless prayer of the man sick with the palsy.

O. Hallesby, Prayer
Bible Illustrator

A prayer, in its simplest definition, is merely a wish turned heavenward.

Phillips Brooks

Prayer does not change God, but it changes him who prays.

Now there's even a "dial-a-prayer" for atheists. You call a number and nobody answers.

When Edward Everett Hale was chaplain of the U.S. Senate, someone asked him, "Do you pray for the senators, Dr. Hale?" He replied, "No, I look at the senators and pray for the country."

Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance; it is laying hold of his highest willingness.

CELL PHONES

Just a reminder, somewhere around the middle of February all cell phone numbers are being released to tele-marketing companies and you will start to receive sales calls on your cell phone. **YOU WILL BE CHARGED FOR THESE CALLS.**

To prevent this, call the following number from your cell phone: 1-888-382-1222. It is the NATIONAL DO NOT CALL LIST. It only takes a minute of your time, and will block your number for 5 years. You can also block your home phone, but you must call from the phone you are blocking.

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