



A bi-monthly periodical for young men

Issue 10, January-February 2006

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EDITORIAL

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ! I am reminded of I Timothy 1:17, "Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen". May our goal this year be to bring glory and honour to God in all things.

I include these selections trusting that they will be a blessing to you. I would like to thank those who have passed on quotes or articles. I continue to encourage each of you to either write an article, or just pass on something you have enjoyed reading – I am sure it will be a blessing to others also.

"Finally, brethren...think on these things" Philippians 4:8

PSALM 37

We look briefly at eight points in this psalm, which has so much meaning and application to us as Christians.

1. Fret not thyself (v1). How often we are tempted to feel discontent with what we have. Life does not seem fair – it seems unjust that those who reject God should have so much, but remember – that is all they have! We have Christ and the promise of eternal life in his presence.

2. Trust in the Lord (v3). The only cure for fretting is trusting in the Lord. Do we place all our confidence in Christ? How much do we rely upon man and the things of this life? "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and all

these things shall be added unto you".

3. Delight thyself in the Lord (v4). When we give up the world we are giving up nothing in comparison with what we gain in the Lord. Jesus Christ is not just our master and Lord, but our friend. We must do more than just walk with him – we must rejoice in him as one that finds great spoil or treasure. Is God the joy and rejoicing of our heart?

4. Commit thy way unto the Lord (v5). It is often difficult to see the way in which we should walk, but when we give everything to the Lord we are able to follow what he reveals, and go where he directs. We should never expect to know everything *now!* Think of a farmer – he ploughs the field, puts in fertilizer and moisture, he plants the seed – and waits. He waits for God to give the increase. Let us not be impatient.

5. Rest in the Lord (v7). God rested because his work was finished. Christ, when he had 'finished the work thou gavest me to do' 'sat down at the right hand of the Father'. When we rest from our own works, leaning entirely upon God, we enter the rest Hebrews speaks about. Israel entered the Promised Land, and fought the battle of Jericho by resting in what God said he would do – and it worked!

6. Cease from anger (v8). Why do we hold any bitterness, anger, or grudge against another? God is in control of the situation – he knows what has happened. Think how he was treated while on earth. If people have done that which is wrong, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the Lord' (Rom 12:19)

7. Depart from evil – do good (v27). We ought to remove ourselves from what is wrong, and the places of wrong

influence. This will help us to do what is right. Does the fruit of our actions bring glory to God?

8. Wait on the Lord (v34). God is not in a hurry, yet he is not slack as some men count slackness (II Peter 3:9). What may seem long and difficult time for us is still perfect according to his time. 'We cannot limit God to a day or a way of doing things'. He is not limited as we are.

By J. McPherson

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO YOU

There's a sweet old story
translated for men,
But writ in the long, long ago--
The Gospel according to Mark,
Luke, and John--
Of Christ and His mission below.

You are writing a gospel, a
chapter each day,
By deeds that you do, by words
that you say.
Men read what you write,
whether faithless or true.
Say, what is the gospel according
to you?

Men read and admire the gospel
of Christ,
With its love so unfailing and true;
But what do they say, and what
do they think
Of the gospel according to you?

'Tis a wonderful story, that
gospel of love,
As it shines in the Christ-life divine,
And oh, that its truth might be
told again
In the story of your life and mine!
Unselfishness mirrors in every scene,
Love blossoms on every sod,
And back from its vision the
heart comes to tell
The wonderful goodness of God.

You are writing each day a letter
to men;
Take care that the writing is true.
'Tis the only gospel some men
will read,
That gospel according to you.

Author Unknown

DOUBTFUL AMUSEMENTS

A young Christian, defending her constant attendance at some rather surprising places of amusement, said, "I think a Christian can go anywhere." "Certainly she can," rejoined her friend, "but your words remind me of an incident last summer when, with a party of friends, I went to explore a coal mine. One of the young women came dressed in a dainty white dress. When her friends remonstrated with her, she appealed to the old miner acting as a guide to the party. 'Can't I wear a white dress down into the mine?' she asked. 'Yes, ma'am,' returned the old man, 'there's nothing to keep you from wearing a white dress down there, but there will be plenty to keep you from wearing a white one back!'"

From *Joyful News* Oct. - Dec. 2005

TO WEEP OR NOT TO WEEP

There is power in tears. Tears move the heart. Women know this, and are not afraid to show their tears when occasion calls for them. Yea, children know this, and freely—often too freely—employ their tears to move the hearts of their parents. But somehow the men of our day seem to have missed this, and the most of them are afraid to be seen with a tear on their face.

If that were all, it were a small problem, but there is something much worse: many of the men of our day are unable to weep—at least, not under ordinary circumstances. Their hearts are too cold, or too hard. They are too much intellect, and too little emotion, and this, alas, they may regard as a strength or a virtue.

But this is no strength, but a great weakness. The God who created the human constitution created within it an invisible link between the heart and the eyes. The feelings – whether of joy, of sorrow, of love, or of innumerable and undefinable other emotions – the feelings of a feeling heart naturally open the fountains of tears.

This it is which gives power to tears, for as an ancient English proverb says, "What comes from the heart goes to the heart."

Where no tears flow, this is a general (though not infallible) indication of an unfeeling heart. It belongs to human nature—and among the rest, to manhood—to weep. "Jesus wept." Jesus, the man of true masculine strength, who quailed not before any, but fearlessly spoke the truth to every man on every occasion, who overturned the tables of the money-changers, and drove them out of the temple with a scourge of small cords. "Jesus wept."

And Paul wept. This strong man who could endure prisons and stonings and shipwrecks, who could give his back to the rod and the scourge, who could encourage the desponding sailors in the midst of the raging storm at sea, and who could face the angry mob and speak faithfully for his God— Paul wept. And Paul wept habitually. His tears gave character (and power) to all of his ministry. To the Ephesians he says, "Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears." (Acts 20:19). And again, "I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears." (Acts 20:31). To the Philippians he says, "For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ." (Phil. 3:18). To the

Corinthians he says, "Out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears." (II Cor. 2:4). It appears, then, that whether Paul was serving, or writing, or preaching, he was often doing so "with many tears." And it plainly appears also that he was not ashamed of the fact.

Nor is it anything to be ashamed of. It is not weakness, but strength...

From an article by Glenn Conjurske

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

The author of *Higher Ground* is Joshua McPherson. He is a young man who desires to walk closer to the Lord each day, and wishes to encourage other young men in the same pursuit.

DISCLAIMER

Please be aware that while articles by many authors are included in this paper, this does not mean that we necessarily agree with everything that author may believe or teach.

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and pass them on to others.*

Higher Ground

Johnson OatmanCharles H. Gabriel

I'm press-ing on the up-ward way, New heights I'm
My heart has no de-sire to stay Where doubts a-
I want to live a-bove the world Tho' sat-an's
I want to scale the ut-most height And catch a

gain-ing ev-ery day; Still pray-ing as I'm on-ward
rise and fears dis-may Tho' some may dwell where these a-
darts at me are hurled For faith has caught the joy-ful
gleam of glor-y bright But still I'll pray till heav'n I've

bound, Lord plant my feet on high-er ground Lord lift me
bound My pray'r my aim is high-er ground
sound The song of saints on high-er ground
found Lord lead me on to high-er ground

up and let me stand By faith on heav-en's ta-ble-land A high-er

plane than I have found Lord plant my feet on high-er ground