



The Acmar Soul Miner

*Searching for wisdom
As for hidden treasures...
For the Lord gives wisdom*



Acmar United Methodist Church December 2016/Volume 195 Acmar Post Office

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

Speak Latin? Who me? Every Christmas many of us sing, "Glo - - - ria in excelsis Deo."

Gloria means "glory." "*Excelsis*" which is usually pronounced "excel-sis" means "the highest." "*Deo*," pronounced "day-o," means God. "Glory to God in the Highest."

Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.

Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.

"For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

"And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger."

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

***"Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace,
goodwill toward men!"***

So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us."

And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child. (Luke 2:8-17)

In the 1800's the French Christmas Carol, "The Angels In Our Countryside" was written. The author is unknown. In 1862, using the same French melody, James Chatwick, a Roman Catholic Bishop translated the words.

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains.

Chorus: Glo - - - ria in excelsis Deo,
Glo - - - ria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

Chorus

Come to Bethlehem, and see,
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Chorus

See within a manger laid
Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
With us sing our Savior's birth.

Chorus

Glory to God in the Highest!

Children's Camp

Gospel Light's Big Book of Kindergarten Puzzles.

Puzzle 31

Look at the picture of the shepherds hearing the good news of Jesus' birth.

Find and draw a ○ around the numbers 1 to 15 hidden in the picture.



The wisdom of God.
We see it in verses but sometimes we have to
dig to uncover the meaning.

Look Here:

*A heavenly host of angels sang, "Glory to
God in the highest."*

(Luke 2:13)

Digging In:

Shepherds were watching sheep at night.
Suddenly, a bright light shone around them.

An angel, "A Savior is born in Bethlehem."
It was Jesus who is Christ the Lord.

Many angels began to sing, "Glory to God in
the highest."

The Acmar Community Quilt

Have you ever noticed that a word or phrase that is repeated often may cease to hold its original meaning or intent? "Have a nice day!" is repeated as you pay at a drive-thru window or check out at a store. You might wonder if that person really cares if you have a nice day, or if they were simply instructed to do so as part of the job training. Some people working with the public will say, "Have a blessed day!" We like to think that maybe they sincerely mean it. As Christmas approaches, variations on the word "bless" seem to be all around – both written and in speech. Has it become such a prevalent part of our culture that we say it almost as a reflex response without thinking? If a person sneezes, chances are that one or more people in the room will murmur, "God bless you," and the 'sneezer' feels good manners dictate a quick, "Thank you". History is vague on who started that, but it is known that hundreds of years ago, sneezing was thought to be an indication of onset of a serious illness or the possibility that one might blow out their soul through the sneeze unless they were blessed by God.

In 1979-1980, Gabriel Barkay led excavations in Jerusalem where they found two amulets dating from the late seventh century BC. Inside each one was a small, rolled up silver scroll with what archeologists determined to be the oldest written blessing. *"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn His face toward you and give you peace."*

In the Bible, Jacob wrestled all night with an angel and then refused to release him in the morning saying, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." That blessing must have been pretty important to Jacob! We sing hymns about 'Showers of Blessings', 'Make Me a Blessing', 'We Gather Together to Ask the Lord's Blessing', 'Blessed Assurance', 'Blessed Be the Name', and in Acmar, we feel very strongly about 'Blessed Be the Tie that Binds'.

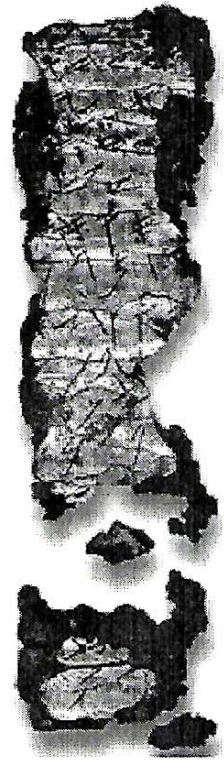
Here in the South, the phrase "Bless your heart," can take on several different meanings. It can be a sincere form of appreciation for someone's thoughtfulness. It could also mean, "I care about you and what's happening in your life." Among friends or relatives who know each other well, a variation on the phrase is understood between them while feeling like we're carrying on polite conversation. When talking about someone's misfortune, "Bless his heart," could be understood to mean, "I'm sad about this. I pray God blesses him with comfort". Then, there's the person being discussed who does something perceived to be not too smart, and the polite Southern, "Bless his heart" really means, "What an idiot!"

Of course, there are those of us who, as small children, were a bit slow to realize that tattling on the sibling who was "peeping during the blessing" often brought about unexpected repercussions from parents.

























There's a popular phrase now that's meant to make us seriously think about our blessings: "What if you woke up today with only the things you had thanked God for?" Maybe it's also a good time to think about how we use the words "bless, blessed, and blessing".

And from your friends in Acmar, we sincerely agree with Charles Dickens' character, Tiny Tim.:

"God bless us, every one!"



December 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1  Terrie Coshatt	2  Louise Foster	3
4 CHURCH 9 am  COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS 2 pm 	5	6	7  MCA 3-5 p White's Chapel	8 BINGO Leeds 10 Sis Bosworth Walter Cash	9  	10 LADIES at NANCY'S 12 Noon  Yvonne Howard
11 CHURCH CHOIR CANTATA 9 am  	12  Jimmy Byers  Elliott Lowery	13  Christine Garrett  Joseph Howard	14  Harriett Hall	15	16	17
18 CHURCH 9 am  Ava Anderson Lenae Wimberly	19	20	21  Christmas with MCA 3 White's Chapel FIRST DAY OF WINTER 	22  Jane Byers	23	24  CHRISTMAS EVE
25  CHURCH 9 am  CHRISTMAS DAY	26  Ti Carpenter	27	28	29	30	31  NEW YEAR'S EVE

Soul Food for December

Mon., November 28 Isaiah 11:1-10
 Tue., November 29 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
 Wed., November 30 Romans 15:4-13
 Thur., December 1 Matthew 3:1-12
 Fri., December 2 Proverbs 21:1-21
 Sat., December 3 John 1:19-31

Mon., December 5 Isaiah 35:1-10
 Tue., December 6 Luke 1:39-56
 Wed., November 7 James 5:7-10
 Thur., November 8 Matthew 11:2-11
 Fri., December 9 Mark 4:35-41
 Sat., December 10 Hebrews 10:19-25

Mon., December 12 Isaiah 7:10-16
 Tue., December 13 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
 Wed., December 14 Romans 1:1-17
 Thur., December 15 Matthew 1:18-25
 Fri., December 16 Isaiah 55:8-13
 Sat., December 17 Luke 21:25-28



Acmar United Methodist Church

P.O. box 85 / 41-7 Old Acton Road
Moody, AL 35004 Phone: 640-4325
 Moody Crossroads / Intersection Hwy. 411/Cty. 10
 Take Cty. 10 W. (Park Ave.) toward Trussville;
 Travel 1 mile; Right on Acmar Rd; travel 2 miles;
 Left onto Old Acton Rd.; Church is on left

Mon., December 19 Isaiah 52:7-10
 Tue., December 20 Psalm 98
 Wed., December 21 Hebrews 1:1-4
 Thur., December 22 John 1:1-14
 Fri., December 23 Romans 8:18-27
 Sat., December 24 Matthew 10:1-8

Mon., December 26 Isaiah 60:1-6
 Tue., December 27 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
 Wed., December 28 Ephesians 3:1-12
 Thur., December 29 Matthew 2:1-12
 Fri., December 30 Luke 18:15-17
 Sat., December 31 Philippians 3:12-14