

The Two Minute Sermon – No 30

Our Living Advocate

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

—1 John 2:1

God's Word is very clear on the issue of sin in the life of a believer. Just as it is God's desire that "*all men be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth,*" (1 Tim. 2:4) it is His will that the Christian "*sin not*". The Scripture ask the pointed question, "*How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?*" (Romans 6:2). The Christian is commanded to "*...deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world*" (Titus 2:12).

Sin is the heartbreak of an authentic Christian, and will not be the usual business of their daily lives. However, when the flesh does prevail in the life of a Christian, there is a living Advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ the righteous. Our Savior is rich in mercy, and His precious blood is effective for all eternity. Jesus is our Consoler, our Comforter; He is the One that comes to our aid. This is a great promise that must not be abused. "*What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?*" 🕒

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 29

When We Forget Jesus

And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake [it], and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup [is] the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.

—Luke 22:19-20

Just before Christ went to the cross, He ordered a way by which those who believe were to remember Him; we know this ordinance as "the Lord's Supper." Considering that Christ Himself ordered this remembrance highlights the vital importance to the Christian life. Throughout centuries of church history, this is considered an ordinance that is to be performed over and over again throughout the Christians' life; the obvious consequence of neglecting this ordinance is forgetting—forgetting Jesus and His cross.

According to the dictionary, the word "forget" means, "a lack of concern or neglect—thoughtless inattention." Does this describe our daily life in Christ? What a dreadful thought! The Lord anticipated that we would need to repeatedly take an inward look at our own hearts in preparation of this Holy Meal. Then we are encouraged to "*eat of that bread and drink of that cup*" in tender remembrance of the Lord and His sacrificing love, which is the enduring tie that binds us not only to Him, but to one another. 🕒

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 28

Pharaoh's Respite

But when Pharaoh saw that there was respite, he hardened his heart, and hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said.

—Exodus 8:15

When Pharaoh of old experienced the plagues brought down upon his land from God through Moses, he reacted like many whose heart was moved when the trial proved sore. With nowhere else to turn when the plague of frogs blanketed the land, he called for Moses to entreat the Lord in his stead; in other words, he wanted mercy. However, after God's mercy proved faithful in his life and the trial was over, the impressions made upon his heart toward faith were immediately squeezed out by an impenitent and hardened heart.

Even in the present hour, the many and often respites provided by the Lord are intended to lead us to repentance and faith in Christ, we have no right to think we can continually ignore God's calls and commands with no consequences. Learn the lesson of Pharaoh's respite, when God calls a truce for a sinner to make his peace with Him, it is time to flee to His loving arms—not tomorrow; not next year, but today. “. . . *now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation* (2 Cor. 6:2b).” Pharaoh's misinterpreted respite ultimately led him and his army on a road of rebellion against God and His people that ended in perdition. ☹

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 27

An Example of Obedience

For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

—Romans 5:19

And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

—Philippians 2:8

It has been said, “What counts costs, and what costs counts,” obedience to God’s Word is a direct application to this statement. Many times it costs to be obedient to Christ, but that obedience will count for all of eternity. Our supreme example of obedience from the Bible is the Lord Jesus Christ himself. Jesus came into this world as the Son of God, but also Son of man; He was divine, yet human; this is very important truth for us to remember and write upon the tables of our hearts, for this truth is at the very core of our salvation. He was “...*found in fashion as a man*”.

Jesus, in His humanity, had to make very human choices—just as you and I do on a daily basis. Jesus struggled in the garden of Gethsemane, with the cross staring Him square in the face, but never for one moment did He ever give a hint that He would be disobedient of the Father’s will. If Christ had been disobedient then there would be no gospel; no salvation; no forgiveness of sins and no hope for mankind. Enduring the cross was the Father’s will that He joyfully accepted even though it meant a violent death. Through this obedient act “...*many are made righteous*.” The eternal value of Christ’s obedience cannot be measured in human terms. Indeed, what counts costs!

The servant is not greater than his master, so it behooves us to respond to Jesus in obedience. The great love that has been bestowed upon us must manifest itself in the Christian’s life by obedience to God’s Word. As enduring the cross was a joy to Jesus, so should be the small sacrifices that obedience will demand in our lives. Remember, He has promised strength for the weak, comfort for the grieved, wisdom for the feeble minded, and a blessing on every heart that trusts His Word. He has not left us comfortless; the Holy Spirit will aid us in the task of being obedient.

The Christian life is the outward witness to the world today of the saving power of the gospel. Alas, much too often, our lives are lived carelessly and do not portray the gospel message as it should. Let the Holy Spirit revive our hearts to a renewed obedience to Christ and His Word, for your life may be the only Bible some will ever read. 🕒

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 26

The Mind of Christ

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

—Philippians 2:5-8

The world cannot comprehend the Son of God in a servants role, nor can the world understand God coming down to earth in the likeness of man to die a cruel death on the cross. What is equally puzzling to the world is when a Christian exhibits the same self giving, humble, obedient mind as the Savior. This type of mind belongs to the mature Christian, one who has long since turned his or her back on the world and its vain philosophies. The mind of the mature Christian walks 180 degrees out of step with the world. This type of life the world does not understand: it is *foolishness* unto them.

Having the mind of Christ is absolutely essential to the work of the church in the world today. Unfortunately many believers do not go on with God after they have been saved. Many stagnate and live a double minded life instead of a single minded Christ centered life. The New Testament church at Corinth was an example of a carnal (or fleshly) church. This young, carnal church exhibited many of the same characteristics as the natural man (i.e. strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambitions, envy, etc.), thus making it impossible for them to be a witness to a world full of darkness and sin. The situation at the church at Corinth is in the Bible as an example and warning to us. Let he that thinks he stands take heed, lest he fall.

Can you imagine the effectiveness of the church with the mind of Christ? How powerful the witness would be to your community, co-workers, friends and family. However, a life such as this cannot be acquired by human wisdom or knowledge. This mature Christian life is revealed and taught by the Holy Spirit:

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. (1 Cor. 2:9-10)

The yielded heart and mind can indeed receive the deep things of God in this world today. Not to be used for self centered purposes—NO!—but for the furtherance of the Gospel. Here at Wake Union, let's have the courage to learn and live the "strange" life of the mind of Christ. It is the strangeness and foolishness of the Gospel that has, and will, turn the world upside down. ☺

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – № 25

There's No Place Like Home

¹And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. ²And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. ⁴And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. ⁵And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new.

—Revelation 21:1-5

We all have often wondered about the meaning of life. What is the meaning of life? Today we intend to answer that question, and actually, we can answer that question in one simple word – HOME. Not the home you will return to after attending church, not the home you grew up in, but the Christians' real home that will find us in the very dwelling place of God and the Lamb.

The verses printed above are some of the most restful, reassuring verses in the whole Bible. These verses actually reveal God's goal for humanity, an everlasting habitation of peace and righteousness for the redeemed. Sin and iniquity are conspicuously absent from this new creation; likewise tears, death, sorrow, crying and pain are passed away. They are the former things of the old creation that was riddled with sin. At this point, in the prophetic writing, the old creation has passed away, just as the Lord Jesus said that it would in Matthew 24:35 "*Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.*" The Lord Jesus' words not only consisted of the negative declaration of the passing of the old creation, but the declaration of the permanence of His words. His words concerning the new creation are found in John 14:1-3, where Jesus promised "*Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*" The promises of the new heavens and new earth are a center piece of Holy Writ, because it is the ultimate destiny for God's people and is central to His eternal purpose.

Very little is revealed to us concerning the eternal purpose and we can only go as far as the revelation of Scripture takes us. It would be dangerous to speculate of such Holy purposes based on our own ideas. Suffice it to say that we know for sure that God's purpose is to relieve His children of the "*former things*" that resulted from sin and "*He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*" He will make all things new.

The message that needs to get to the world today is that to enter this new creation you must be a "*new creature*". The Bible very plainly tells us that Jesus Christ is the Way to this new creation; 2 Corinthians 5:17 says "*if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*" Being saved is to be "*in Christ*", safe and secure, with the life giving Spirit of "*the Lamb*" dwelling in your very heart.

It should thrill our hearts to know that our God desires our eternal fellowship. This place that He has prepared is a place of love, righteousness, holiness, mercy and peace. And where love abides there is peace; where righteousness abides there is holiness; where holiness lives God dwells; and where mercy lives the Lamb dwells. Where God and the Lamb are is home, and THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME. ☺

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 24

Growing or Hardening – Which?

After faith in Christ comes, we are invited to “...grow in the grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 3:18). Growing in grace is God adding to your heart those things which make us more and more like Him. This kind of growth honors His holy name and establishes His Word in a dark world.

I have found that this growth is made even more powerful when we consider the alternative—and this alternative is a scary one—but one in which we should probe our own hearts in thorough examination. Listen to the clear teaching of Scripture:

“But exhort one another daily, while it is called Today; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end; ¹⁵While it is said, Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation” (Hebrews 3:13-15).

This daily exhortation is one to “hold,” hold to that faith that saved you and let not sin undermine the work that God is doing in your life. Turning a deaf ear to the calls and counsels of Christ bring the consequences of a hardened heart. The hardened heart is the back sliding heart that refuses to go in God’s direction, but rather runs with the world.

How disastrous it is to ignore repeated warnings from Scripture. Let us be found “growing in grace” and not “hardening”. Now is the time for a fresh commitment to growth through God’s Word and prayer; tomorrow may be too late. ☹ —MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 23

Christ, the Power of God

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

—Romans 1:16

When you do even a casual biblical study on the phrase, “*the power of God*,” the first thing you will notice is its relationship to Christ and the gospel. Our salvation, our security, our faith, our life, our wisdom does not rest upon the ever changing wisdom and weakness of men, but upon the mighty shoulder of the One who loved us and gave Himself for us.

This power is a power that will not erode over time. It is not as a candle whose life and brightness is determined by the length of its wax soaked wick; the candle needs a source, but Christ needs no source—He is the source! In Him is the origin of the undying, everlasting nature of the life giving power that is the same yesterday, today and forever. ☹ —MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 22

A New Thing

[Jesus said unto them] No man also seweth a piece of new cloth on an old garment: else the new piece that filled it up taketh away from the old, and the rent is made worse. ²²And no man putteth new wine into old bottles: else the new wine doth burst the bottles, and the wine is spilled, and the bottles will be marred: but new wine must be put into new bottles.

—Mark 2:21-22

Over the last couple of months, the old deadness of winter has made way for the newness of life that Spring brings; this change brings to mind the new thing Christ brought to an old, needy world. Over the centuries God has faithfully and progressively moved in His gospel plan—the old Law of Moses had to make way for the new work of the Holy Spirit; the old works of the flesh, with its transgressions, are cast away for a new walk with Christ; the old separation of Jew and Gentile is discarded for a new unity in which all who are “*in Christ*” enjoy. Finally, we look for a new Heaven and a new Earth where righteousness reigns and the old ways of sin and death are remembered no more. ☹ —*MWH*

The Two Minute Sermon – No 21

Jews, Gentiles and Salvation

Is he the God of the Jews only? is he not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also: ³⁰Seeing it is one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith.

—Romans 3:29-30

There are only two ethnic divisions of the Bible—Jew and Gentile. The Old Testament follows the history of the nation of Israel; other peoples are mentioned only as they come in contact with them. The Jews are a chosen, peculiar treasure to the LORD; this cannot be scripturally denied. The LORD called them to pen the Holy Scriptures and act as caretakers of it. Israel was to show to the world the blessedness of serving the Living and True God and provide the human lineage through which the Messiah would be born.

Sadly, blindness has gripped the Jewish people during this age, but during this time of blindness, light has come to the Gentiles. Of this blindness we do not completely understand, but the one great truth—which is very clear—is that whether Jew or Gentile, all can be justified by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and be placed in that one sheep fold, under the protection of the One Good Shepherd for all of eternity. ☹ —*MWH*

The Two Minute Sermon – No 20

Books Without End

And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.

—John 21:25

The works of our Lord are too numerous and marvelous to be recorded in their entirety. How do you describe the work of Christ in making the woeful heart to sing? How can you write about love that passes knowledge? Explain—if you can—how He can set the sinful heart free from the bondage of sin. How can we understand enough to tell all of the One who knows the number of the stars, and calls them by name? The Apostle plainly tells us if one could record these things, the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. The clear emphasis of this verse is that the works of Christ are infinite in their number, and beyond our thoughts in efficacy.

How many books could be written about what Christ has done in your life? Counting our blessings is like counting the grains of sand on the sea shore. Think today on what the Lord has done for you, and you will find that truly the riches of His grace are unsearchable. ☺ —MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 19

What Is Your Life?

Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

—James 4:14

Our Scripture for today asks us a very searching question: “*For what is your life?*” That is a pertinent question, is it not? James goes on to answer it for us: “*...it is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away*” (James 4:14).

What are we doing with our “*little time*” on earth? What and or who do we chose to love? What is our aim in life? What are the affections of our heart? Is it the things of the world in which moth and rust corrupts and thieves break in and steal? Do we relish in social and recreational activities to the point we have become more sensual than spiritual? Or do we chose to put our treasure in heaven?

What about your church? Would it break your heart if you woke up one day and it was gone? Would you miss the fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ? Would you long to hear the Bible taught and preached? Would you want to sing just one more hymn? Would you long to hear someone pray? Just what is your life, my friend? Only you and the Lord can answer this question. ☺

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 18

By One Man

*For if by **one man's** offence death reigned by **one**; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by **one**, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸Therefore as by the offence of **one** judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of **one** the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.*

—Romans 5:17-18

In this Scripture we see a wonderful parallel view of the sin and disobedience of Adam, plunging the human race into condemnation and death—and the much more powerful obedience and righteousness of the Savior, rescuing faithful hearts by grace into justification and life.

Back and forth, in poetical meter and repetition, the Apostle eloquently contrasts sin and death with righteousness and life. This provides the message of the entire Bible—mans' need (with sin and death reigning over him) and God's ability to meet that need through the life of the Lord Jesus Christ. This abundant grace merely has to be "received" to be effectual in the life. This is the choice—condemnation and death, or justification and life. The gospel could not be any plainer. ☹

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 17

The Source of Comfort

This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me.

—Psalm 119:50

Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

—Acts 9:31

Comfort is inseparably related to the truth of the Word of God, with the Holy Spirit applying that truth to the heart. It is a soothing balm from Heaven for the mind and body. This doesn't mean there aren't troubling truths found in the Scripture. What it does mean is that God has laid out the remedy for a needy race, and is ready and willing to deliver the consolation of Christ to those who are desperate to receive it. ☹

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 16

Time Flies

LORD, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am. ⁵Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity. Selah. ⁶Surely every man walketh in a vain shew: surely they are disquieted in vain: he heapeth up riches, and knoweth not who shall gather them.

⁷And now, Lord, what wait I for? my hope is in thee. ⁸Deliver me from all my transgressions: make me not the reproach of the foolish.

—Psalm 39:4-8

Life is too brief, and too frail, to live as if there is no God. Our time may be short, but we are told that the "Word of the Lord endures forever." Acting on the promises of the Lord, in faith, allows man to escape the utter vanity of a life lived apart from the Lord. What a comfort it is to live everyday "leaning on the everlasting arms." ☹

The Two Minute Sermon – No 15

The Shared Triumph

[*Jesus saith unto them*] “...because I live, ye shall live also.”

—John 14:19b

To appreciate the resurrection, we must understand Jesus died on the cross. He died! *For the wages of sin is death* (Romans 6:23a). Just as Jonah spent three days and three nights in the whales belly because of disobedience and sin, Christ died and spent three days and three nights in the heart of the earth—not for His own sin, but for ours. The prophet Isaiah made it clear that the suffering and death of the Messiah would be substitutionary, “*But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities*” (Isaiah 53:5a). The Holy One, however, could not be bound by death nor could He see corruption; He has power and authority over it. Jesus’ victory guarantees that He would live forevermore in the satisfaction of His suffering—giving the gift of His Incorruptible Seed to all who have faith in His name.

Understanding Jesus’ death makes the resurrection victory a triumph that all (who believe) share in Him. His triumph is our triumph! Because He lives, we shall live also: “...*the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord*” (Romans 6:23b). 🕒

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 14

The Glory of God

For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

—2 Corinthians 4:6

Few have ever seen visions of the “*glory of God.*” Select verses in the Bible record what certain men saw in Bible times, and their view is impressive and wondrous. Such visions arouse our imaginations for the spectacular and sensational, but even these visions do not give a comprehensive view of God and His glory.

The New Testament declares that a clear view of God’s glory is in the Lord Jesus Christ; for it is in the saving knowledge of Christ we can see (by faith) the glory of God. This glory should be the desire, hope and rejoicing of the hearts of men. Lives filled with the light of God’s glory will not walk in darkness. *Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God* (1 Corinthians 10:31). 🕒

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 13

They Understood Not

Others said, This is the Christ. But some said, Shall Christ come out of Galilee? ⁴²Hath not the scripture said, That Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was? ⁴³So there was a division among the people because of him.

—John 7:41-43

There has never been a more misunderstood person in history than the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as Moses and his ancient works in Egypt were misunderstood, some have chosen to be willingly ignorant of God's great plan through Christ and His gospel. Many of those who spoke against Him never took the time to investigate where He came from, or how He fulfilled the Old Testament Scriptures—even though His miracles and teaching were well established amongst the multitudes. His own disciples (for a time) did not grasp the meaning of His death and resurrection.

Today, many continue to ignore the person and message of Christ and actually seek reason for unbelief. Just as lost sheep that are gone astray we have turned to our own way, instead of seeking the Lord while He may be found and calling upon Him while He is near. Nonetheless, the loving, graceful message must continue to go out, even in the midst of willing ignorance and division, because humble faith in Jesus makes new creatures bound for a new creation. ☺

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 12

A Chronicle of the Heart of Christ

“[Love] suffereth long, and is kind; [love] envieth not; [love] vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.”

—1 Corinthians 13:4-7

This wonderful, poetic 13th chapter of 1 Corinthians would fit very well in either of the Old Testament books of Psalms, or Song of Solomon; but the most fitting place for it to be is right where it is—in the center of the New Testament of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This brief chapter is not a definition of love; rather, it is a chronicle of the heart of Christ Himself. Love is the very heartbeat of God's plan for the redemption of man. Love is the Decalogue of the Gospel written not with ink or on stone tablets, but by the Holy Spirit, in fleshy tables of the heart. ☺ —MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 11

Our True Valentine

"My beloved is mine, and I am his..."

—Song of Solomon 2:16a

The Church is referred to in Scripture as the “Bride of Christ,” and what we have in the Old Testament book of the *Song of Solomon* is the expressions of that love between Christ and His Bride. The outstanding parts of this wondrous little book are the expressions themselves; they are the expressions of a healthy love relationship. Such expressions put to the test our spiritual condition concerning our relationship with Christ. Our value of Christ is the thermometer of our spiritual condition.

When pride of self fills the soul there is little room for Jesus, but when “things” that rival His place in our heart are removed, there is more room for Jesus to be loved. Notice the personal nature of the Bride’s speech, “*My beloved is mine and I am his*”. The scripture teaches that we are “*in Christ*” and that Christ is “*in us*.” This is where the gold and counterfeit are separated; those who merely profess Christ cannot say “He is mine” but the true believer rejoices and even triumphs in this knowledge. This truth is the cornerstone of the Christian’s peace.

Real life in God is a personal loving relationship with Jesus Christ. Marriage in this life is actually a picture of our relationship with Christ—two becomes one. This is the reason marriage is important; God has decided its sacred definition and it must not be trifled with by fleshly men and women with wicked imaginations. Let this Valentine’s season remind us of these precious truths. ☺ —MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 10

Be Still, Stand in Awe and Sin Not

*But know that the LORD hath set apart him that is godly for himself: the LORD will hear when I call unto him. ⁴Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and **be still**. Selah. ⁵Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the LORD.*

—Psalm 4:3-5

Modern day life is filled with activity and occupation. Even though we have more “time-saving” machines and technology than our ancestors, we often find ourselves struggling to find even five minutes to stop and be still for the purpose of considering the greatness and majesty of our Creator and Lord. This has resulted in skewed and shallow views of God that hinder worship and the work of the gospel. It is time to rediscover “old-timey” ways and slow down for the express purpose of getting to know Him; and, NO, you will not find an “app” for that! ☺

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 9

Sufficient Strength

And [Jesus] said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

—2 Corinthians 12:9

Strength is a dominate theme in the Bible, and for good reason too. If we are going to stand for Him today, it is going to cost us something, and we will need His strength to accomplish His will. God has never asked us to do anything out of our own strength; He constantly reminds us that He is our strength. The recognition of our weak spiritual condition is just where we need to be so that we can lay hold of the great truth: “*His strength is made perfect in weakness.*” ☺

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 8

The Burning

And they said one to another, “Did not our heart burn within us, while [Jesus] talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?”

—Luke 24:32

When the Word of God is received in the power of the Holy Spirit, the heart is never the same. Many from Bible times, as well as from contemporary times, have described the moving of the Word within their hearts as a “burning fire” and it was at that time that the things of God became real to them. The strange, warming of the heart is a medicine that our land needs today, but it will not be experienced in worldly delights. It will only be found in the acceptance of the Truth and surrender to the leading of the precious Spirit of Christ. ☺

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 7

Miracles Considered

Now when [Jesus] was in Jerusalem at the passover, in the feast day, many believed in his name, when they saw the miracles which he did.

—John 2:23

When miracles of the Bible are considered, it becomes apparent that they had a very important purpose. Miracles performed by Jesus were neither intended to be a cheap side-show, nor were they for earthly material gain. The Scriptures tell us that their main purpose was to point people toward the belief of the truth and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. When that faith comes upon the heart, the most miraculous thing of all happens—a person becomes a new creature in Christ and is born again. ☺

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 6

Accepted In the Beloved

“...He hath made us accepted in the beloved.” (Eph. 1:6b)

The need to be accepted is a very real human longing. There is nothing that compares with being accepted by others with family-like acceptance. To be loved, nourished and given the opportunity to contribute to the well being of the family is a tremendous blessing from Heaven. Many people have lived a lifetime of hurt and rejection because of broken families. The Gospel of Jesus Christ establishes a family relationship with our Creator that has no rival. When we come to Christ in faith, we then have a Father in Heaven; we are called “children of God” and are “*accepted in the beloved.*” ☺

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 5

The Need of Faithful Prayer

And [Jesus] spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;(Luke 18:1)

As we contemplate the past year with all its trials, cares and victories, let it be a lesson to us that we need to meet the New Year with a renewed commitment to faithful prayer. Be sure that just as every day of the coming year will require its bread, so every day will require its prayer. True prayer is birthed out of present need, and we need to trust God today to meet them. Let us seek the Lord daily as He taught us, “*Give us this day our daily bread.*” ☺

—MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 4

Remembering the Lord Jesus

When we think of a memorial, we normally think of some sort of monument, a picture, a plaque, or even a building. The purpose of a memorial is that we should not forget the person or event that is being memorialized. The Bible commands Christians to remember Jesus, but not with a plaque, monument or building. We are to remember Him through an act of obedience, through observing the Lord's Supper. This act of obedience not only brings the remembrance of Christ's once and for all sacrifice for the sin of the world; it brings special fellowship and blessing to the heart while the believer worships in holiness. This special blessing is indicative of the fact that our Redeemer lives today. This act proclaims, announces, declares the great salvation and life that is in Christ and looks forward to His second coming. ☺

–MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 3

The Noel

When the fullness of time was come there was a birth. A man born of woman, born under the law, but this was not the average birth—this was THE BIRTH. This birth was the entrance of God's Son into the world; this birth involved the redemption of the human family.

From the very beginning, this birth of the One born in a stable and laid in a manger has affected human events. He moved Caesar to declare a tax; set wise men on a journey following a star from a far country. Lowly shepherds were beckoned to His side amongst the Glory of God, and were the audience for the praising of the heavenly hosts. This birth sent fear into the heart of a king, to such an extent, that he was moved to the ghastly deed of waging war on little children. This birth allowed an old man in Jerusalem to die in peace; moved an old woman to speak of Him to all who looked for redemption. This birth has inspired art and beautiful music for the last 2000 plus years!

This birth—THE NOEL—was the birth of Jesus, for, “*He shall save His people from their sin.*” The world shall never see another birth like it. Has His birth affected you? ☺

–MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 2

The First Christmas Carol

The biblical account of the angel of the Lord appearing to the shepherds, to announce the birth of Christ, is one of the most well known events in the Bible. In these verses we have the ancient ancestor of the first Christmas carol, which was not uttered by man, but by the “*multitude of the heavenly host.*”

This refrain, be it ever so brief, is a synopsis of what the birth of a Savior proclaimed to all people: “*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*” Heaven has proclaimed that God's posture toward men and women of the Earth is that of good will. This benevolence and kindness from Heaven brings peace to the heart of man—if we step out in faith and receive the One who began His earthly ministry in a manger in Bethlehem. So, will you sing the Christmas carols with vigor this year? Nothing is more worthy of the glory and praise of God. ☺

–MWH

The Two Minute Sermon – No 1

A Harvest from the Heart

The fruit that a Christian can produce in daily life is not something that is achieved by ones' own effort, talent or ability. The Lord Jesus has plainly told us that "*without me, ye can do nothing*". A simple listing of what that fruit is will give us a clue as to where the fruit is originated: "*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law*" (Gal. 5:22, 23).

Even a casual study of these "fruits" brings us to the realization that they do not naturally flow from the heart of man, but from heaven itself. The Lord Jesus teaches us in John chapter 15 that He is the Vine and His disciples are the branches. The branches cannot bear fruit of itself, it can only bear fruit if it is attached to the vine; the vine provides the life giving nutrients essential for fruit bearing. Christians are commanded to "*walk in the Spirit*", this kind of walk produces fruit that will provide a harvest from the heart that will last for all eternity. ☺

—MWH
