



HUMANLY SPEAKING

By David J. Phillips, Pastor, Georgetown Alliance Church
(Credit is due to Dr. V. Raymond Edman, Editor, The Alliance Witness.)

The Bible abounds in paradoxes that at first sight seem to be preposterous and ridiculous. It sets forth propositions that to all appearances are utterly impossible of solution, absurdities that are wholly unreasonable and incredible. For example, the Word of God speaks of seeing the in-

visible, and of our realizing a peace that passes understanding. The Bible would have us comprehend a love that is beyond knowledge and to experience power that is unimaginable and inconceivable.

By such apparent absurdities is the Almighty making mockery of us in our finite understanding, or are these paradoxes really meaningful and available in our experience? God is love and not a monster who mocks His creatures. His revelation to us, the Bible, on occasion surpasses our rational faculties, but it is not unreasonable and nonsensical.

It is said of Moses that he endured the long discipline of the desert, the violent opposition of Pharaoh and the burdens of leadership for his people during their extended wanderings "as seeing him who is invisible" (Heb. 11:27). The Scriptures speak pointedly of God who is invisible: "the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God." It declares that "no man hath seen God at any time," and yet the Lord Jesus also taught plainly in the Beatitudes that the pure in heart are blessed, "for they shall see God."

AWARE OF HIS PRESENCE

Such discern the Most High now in time and space, not only in eternity. They see no outward form, but they are aware of His presence and power because of the heart relationship with Him. They are like the palmist who could say in all sincerity and accuracy: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." From the experience of Moses himself they have learned experientially the truth of God's promise, "My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest." They see God in every circumstance of life by the inner eye of the heart. They walk not by sight only, which sees the immediate; they have learned to walk by faith and thus to see the invisible One. These are they who can say, "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal but the things which are not seen are eternal." (II Corinthians 4:17, 18).

The Scriptures also speak of a paradoxical "peace of God, which passeth all understanding" (Phil. 4: 7). If this is something beyond our reason can it be meaningful to us? We are aware of a contentment that is understandable, a peace of heart that rises out of abundant health, a happy home, ample finances and faithful friends; but the Bible promises a peace that is not dependent upon any of these factors. It is a divine provision, the peace of God Himself. "Promised the Lord Jesus: "These things have I spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33).

The Bible goes on to urge us "to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge . . . (Eph. 3:19). If this love is beyond our ability to know, is it not meaningless and nonsensical to us? Not at all. It is to be apprehended and appropriated by the gracious provision of the indwelling Spirit of God. The knowledge of God's will, and of His love as well, is understood "in all wisdom and spiritual understanding"; or, as one has translated that word in Colossians 1:9, "That ye might be filled with the advanced and perfect experiential knowledge of His will in the sphere of every kind of wisdom and intelligence which is spiritual." That which is of the Spirit of God is not conceivable or unthinkable or contrary to reason; it is beyond such factors.

INCREDIBLE, IMPRACTICAL AND UNATTAINABLE

Then there is the assurance that God is able to do "exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us." (Eph. 3:20). The humanly impossible is incredible, impractical and unattainable. Does it therefore have any practical meaning and value to us? Just as Moses endured as seeing God who was invisible, so Abraham "staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform."

In every paradox what at first sight appears to be wholly preposterous, we are to understand as a divine possibility. It is by faith that the pure in heart see God, who is, humanly speaking, invisible. It is by prayer, petition and praise that the believing heart is kept in the peace of

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Georgetown Alliance Church
(Evangelical)
Centennial Public School
Minister: D. J. Phillips
Telephone: 877-9816
10 a.m.: Sunday School (all classes)
11 a.m.: Morning Worship
7 p.m.: Evening Service

Immanuel LUTHERAN CHURCH
Windsor Road at Carole St.
Rev. Harold R. Patzer
9.45 a.m. Sunday School
11.00 a.m. Worship Service

ST. JOHNS UNITED CHURCH
11 Guelph St. — 877-2531
MINISTER: Rev. Robert O. Servens
Organist John Taylor A. Mus
9.30 a.m.: Church School Grade 1 and up
11.00 a.m. Sacrament of Infant Baptism
Nursery to Grade 1
7.30 p.m.: Fellowship of Hymn Singing with Bible Study & Prayer
COME AND WORSHIP

MOUNTAINVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH
Minister: Rev. W. R. Cairns
Organist: Mrs. W. Townend
10 a.m.: Church School
11 a.m.: Morning Worship
7 p.m.: Evening Fellowship
VISITORS WELCOME

GEORGETOWN'S EVANGELISTIC CENTRE
MAPLE AVE. BAPTIST CHURCH
REV. ROBERT C. LOHNES, Pastor
BIBLE PREACHING — 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Family Sunday School — 9.45 a.m.
A Fellowship Baptist Church

Knox Presbyterian Church
Main and Church 877-2848
MINISTER . . . REV. F. N. YOUNG
10.00 a.m. Church School
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship
NURSERY CARE
ORGANIST — MRS. E. GOWLAND

Georgetown Pentecostal Church
Main St. N. Rev. Jack McCallum 877-4876
Sunday, 10 a.m. Sunday School for Everyone
11 a.m. "The Second Coming"
7 p.m. "The Protester"
Tuesday, 8 p.m. — Prayer and Ministry
THE CHURCH WITH YOU IN MIND

God who passes human understanding, humanly speaking. The love of Christ which passes knowledge, humanly speaking, is appropriated by the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit. What is impossible with men is wholly possible with God.
All this staggers the rationalist because divine revelation is unreasonable to mere human understanding. To the human and believing heart all things are possible with God. It is by faith that we assent to Sidney Lanier's insight in his poem:
Vainly the mind of man might revolve,
Plainly the heart of a child could solve it.
Solving such vanity is easy, simply believing in Jesus Christ as personal Saviour and Lord, and letting Him have complete control of showing us abundant life.

BRIDGE CLUB
There were sixteen tables of bridge played in the duplicate bridge game in the Legion auditorium on Tuesday, February 2. Fourteen tables of regular duplicate and two tables of the Inter-Club match with the Guelph Team competing against Georgetown. The local team won this match.
North-South winners in the regular game were — Joe Munner and Fred Allen, first; 2nd R. Prust and Pat Williams; 3rd 4th and 5th places were tied as follows — Elizabeth McCrae, Lorena Norris; Mr. and Mrs. R. Dawson and Mr. and Mrs. R. Reynolds.
East-West winners — Gary Hall and Vi Naylor first; Ken Richardson and G. B. Fisher, 2nd; 3rd, H. Rayfield and K. Campbell; 4th, Doris Barber and Nelle Goldham with George Elleton and Gundi Kistemaker; 5th.
— Mrs. Ann Hamilton.

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Supper Party is Birthday Surprise
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brown of Palermo, Mrs. Hattie McDuffie, Mrs. Mildred Glover and Mrs. Frank Peacock held a surprise birthday supper in honour of Miss Mabel McCartney on her birthday on Friday, February 5.

The North Trafalgar Euchre Club held their weekly euchre party at the North Trafalgar Community Centre on Saturday night, February 6. There were eight tables of euchre in play with prizes going to the following winners — 1st prize, Mrs. Jack Thorne; 2nd prize, Mrs. Harvey Dunn; 3rd prize, Mrs. Clare Wilson, for the girls the winners were, 1st Ralph Featherston; 2nd Ernie Martin and 3rd Bill Thomson. The lucky draws were won by Mrs. Margaret Letty and Buck Burton. The next euchre party will be held on Saturday night, February 13.

Birthday greetings are extended to the following who are celebrating their birthdays — Anderson May on February 7, Leonard Buckler on February 9, Janet Calhoun on February 10, Valerie Plant on February 15.

Rev. Lynne Adams was welcomed to her two new charges on Sunday, February 7, when she preached her first service in the morning at the Bethel United Church and from there to Hillcrest at 11 a.m. Miss Adams is from Toronto and decided to be a minister when she was 17 and graduated ten years later with a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Emmanuel College in Toronto.

Friends of Mrs. Clarence Peacock will be pleased to hear that she is recovering at her home following surgery in the Milton District Hospital.

The annual meeting of the Halton County Milk Producers

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