

Religion

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom

Human, sinful man cannot enter into God's presence by himself. To do so would be instant death as the Israelites discovered in the days of Moses (1). Only their high priest could enter the holiest room in the tabernacle, and then only after he had purified himself and presented a sin-offering. All others died when they encountered the glory of God's presence (2).

Modern man has not understood this "reverential fear" (3) of God's holy presence. Because our sin has become so great and our faith so weak, we no longer realize our need for a high priest to

make atonement for us before an almighty and omnipotent God. Yet our Bible tells us Jesus Christ is our High Priest who sprinkles His blood on us to get rid of our sin (4), and prays for us (5) so that we can come into God's presence.

The day Jesus died, we are told that the veil or curtain which divided the holy-of-holies from the outer court of the Jewish temple was torn in two (6). This was more than a physical tearing of a physical curtain. This was the tearing down of the veil which divides man and God (7). Jesus' sacrificial death made our approach to our holy God a possi-

Hope for Tomorrow



bility (8).

The Spirit of Jesus Christ which tore that curtain in the temple the day He died is the same Spirit which causes one to have a spiritual birth. It is His Spirit which enters a human heart to tear down the dividing wall

between man and his God. Jesus Christ is called the "Word of God" (9), He speaks and spiritual life begins (10)! The Word speaks, God's will is done!

You and I need to pray for wisdom to understand God's power. The Apostle Paul's prayer for his churches was for "spiritual wisdom and understanding" (11).

True wisdom is to fear God enough to listen to Him and obey Him. To listen is to understand His greatness, to know the mystery of the Godhead - one God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (12). To understand this secret mystery is to be in Christ Jesus, to

walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit (13).

King Solomon prayed for wisdom, and he received it (14). Yet even Solomon, later in life, walked after human ways when he allowed his foreign wives to worship their gods, and thereby lost half his kingdom (15). We also lose our kingdom status if we do not worship our true God (16). We cannot compromise any more than could Solomon, the wisest king who ever lived. His son, David, wrote, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom" (17). David knew that wisdom without fear had ruined his father.

We need to fear God, not because we are any longer under condemnation for our sins, but because we know that without our High Priest, we would die in His presence. Jesus is Wisdom personified! (18)

KJV - Ex 20:19; Lev 16:1-4

AMP V - Ex 20:20

KJV - Heb 9:12; 7:25; Mt 27:51; 2 Cor 3:16; 1 Tim 2:5-6; Jn 1:14; 1 Pe 1:23; Col 1:9; 2:9-10; Rom 8:1; 1 Ki 4:29; 11:31; Col 2:6-10; Ps 111:10; 1 Cor 1:24

(Doreen Palmer is a freelance writer and member of Halton Hills Outreach Faith Ministry 877-4583. She and her husband attend Faith Gospel Tabernacle, Hwy. 7 at Creditview Road)

Living with Cancer

A support group for patients, family and friends meeting at Peel Memorial Hospital, 7 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month.

Don't pay attention to stories

"Neither give heed to fables..." (1 Tim. 1:4).

As the present-day English reader comes upon the word "fables" in the *Authorized Version*, he is apt to think of *Aesop's Fables*, but these were illustrations, while the original word muthois means simple stories, including stories of imagined incidents or events.

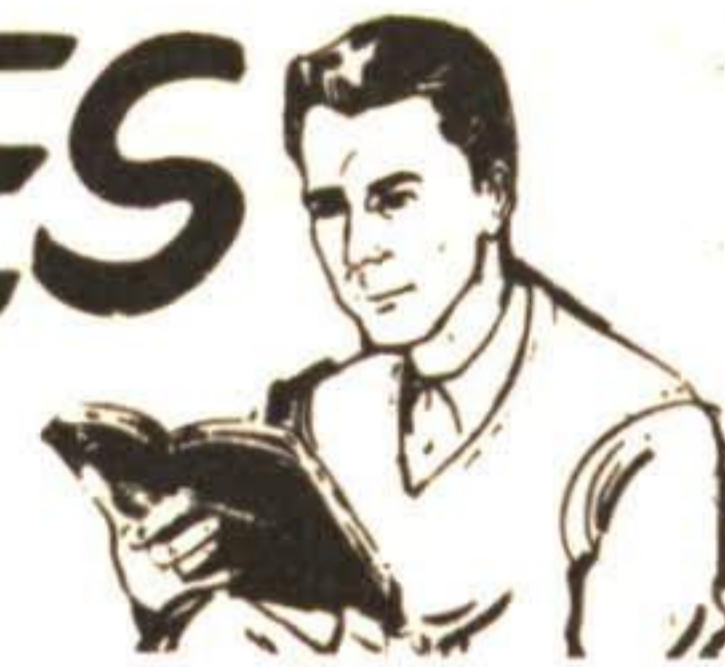
There are two types of stories that have exerted an amazing influence upon twentieth century Christendom. One is the novel, the other the promotional story.

In considering the above passage, this writer examined the contents of the popular Christian periodicals coming to his desk and was astonished to find how many of them were largely filled with fiction and with stories written to promote projects or viewpoints. The Apostle says about such stories that they raise questions but do not answer them, for stories really prove nothing. This is also true of many Christian films.

Many Christian novels have indeed exerted a savory influence

TWO MINUTES

WITH THE BIBLE
BY CORNELIUS R. STAM PRES.
BEREAN BIBLE SOCIETY



upon their readers—when they have been founded upon Scriptural truths and principles. Obviously, however, an author can make his novel "prove" exactly what he wishes to prove, for the novel involves us in a world of make-believe. Thus a novel can be dangerous to Christian faith and practice.

The promotional story holds, perhaps, an even more prominent place in our popular Christian magazines. No one can object to factual reports of what God has wrought, but too many of these stories are nothing more than

promotional efforts. Many of these "success stories" are so successful that thoughtful readers question their validity and are apt to lay them aside without even finishing them. Less discerning readers, however, are often deeply moved by them.

We are well aware that our objections are not popular, but we are not trying to be popular; we are trying to help sincere Christians find their way back, step by step, to renewed spiritual power. This power has been too long frittered away by substituting the will of man for the Word of God.

Apples of Gold

By PENNY WILLIAMS

Thought for the day: Loneliness

Impatient drivers honk at traffic. The whirring sound of construction fills the air. Clap, clap, clap... as ladies walk quickly during their lunch break. The business of city life cannot be denied. People everywhere like little ants work towards tomorrow. Yet, among them are some that feel the blackness closing in around them called loneliness.

There's no escaping it, most of us experience it at one time or another. It may come in with a feeling of lack of worthiness that leads to a low self esteem and no confidence. It could have begun at the office or before you left for work. Thinking no one understands you. You feel like you are standing alone.

Many suicides are caused by this uncaring spirit. The need for someone to talk to can be so strong that in some cities a listener advertised in the paper is only a telephone call away, for a small fee.

Just listening.

Listening is a sign of interest and interest means a spark of concern. We undervalue the art. We are a people swift to talk and slow to hear. How sad. We should be the opposite.

Loneliness is found everywhere, it has unlimited permission to go globe trotting. It favors no particular occupation or age.

The lonely have a void in their life that God can fill with His gentle love. For it was He that said, "I will never leave thee or forsake thee" Heb. 13:5. How reassuring that verse can be. To start a day and know that wherever you go and whatever you go through our Heavenly Father is always with us.

That is your decision to believe that He is truly there.

The Georgetown and District Red Cross office will be CLOSED starting July 20 through August 6.

In an emergency please call the Distress Centre

877-1211

Thank You

DIRECTORY OF HALTON HILLS Churches & Temples

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Corner of Maple & Guelph

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10:30 Fellowship
11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Worship & Praise

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Mondays - baseball
Wednesdays - Home Bible Studies

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SUNDAY 10:00 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.

Rev. B. Slofstra

Rev. P. Stadt

7:30 A.M. Hamilton CHAM 820

7:30 P.M. Burlington FM 108

9:00 P.M. Guelph CJOY 1460

and Mon.-Fri. Faith 20

5:00 A.M. Global TV Ch. 6-22

Ladies' Coffee Break Tues. 9:15 a.m.

ST. ANDREWS UNITED CHURCH

Minister:

Rev. Judith H., MacGillivray

B.A., M.Div, Th.D.

89 Mountainview

877-4482

9:45 a.m.

- Morning Worship

- Sunday School

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"Building Tomorrow's Church Today"

St. George's Anglican Church

60 Guelph Street, Georgetown -
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Rev. Thomas M.S. Kingston, B.A., B.Th.

Curate:

Rev. Richard M. Jones, B.A., M.Div.

Pastoral Archdeacon:
Ven. John H. McMullin, B.A., S.T.B., D.D.

Director of Music

Ms. Valerie Nichol, A.R.C.T.

Summer Services

8 a.m. & 10 a.m.

Thursday 10 a.m.

Mountainview Baptist Church

102 Mountainview Rd. S.

Pastor: David Caldwell

Church: 877-5854

Home: 873-2184

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July & August at 10 am

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11:00 a.m. Family Worship

6:30 p.m. Evening Praise

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Youth Night

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"Let us not look back in
anger, nor forward in fear,
but around us in awareness."
Leland Val Vandewall