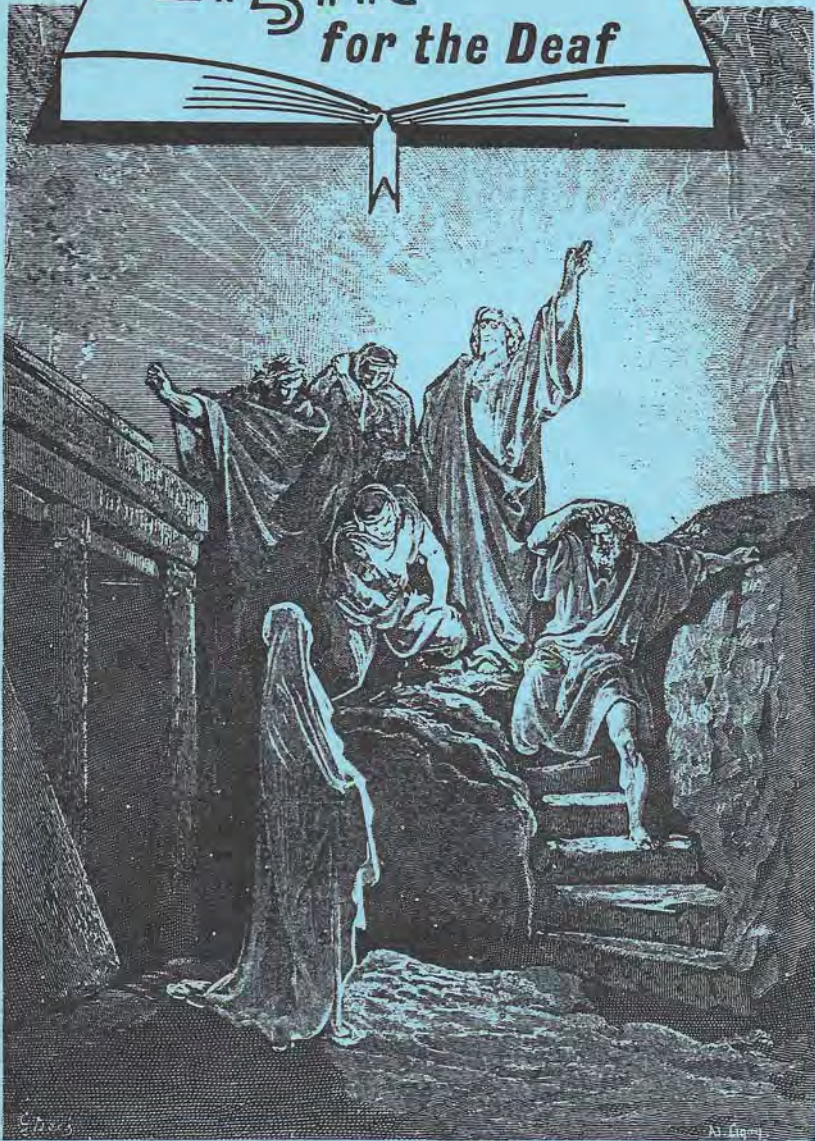


APRIL-MAY-JUNE 1993

No. 140



Light
for the Deaf



**Exalting Christ
among the Deaf**

Personally from Billy



Death comes to all people alike (Hebrews 9:27; Ecclesiastes 9:2).

But this issue's Bible comic strip shows Jesus has power over this dread enemy of mankind, Death. When Jesus raised Lazarus to life, He gave the people at the time a preview of His own triumph over death (2 Timothy 1:10).

That is why we do not mourn in the same way like worldly people when one of our brothers or sisters has departed (1 Thessalonians 4:13). These worldly people have no hope. But we who follow Christ and who are God's children, **do** have hope. In fact we have a precious promise from the Lord that we will rise to have life forever (1 John 2:25; John 11:25-26). This is all because Jesus Himself rose from the dead! (Read the thrilling 15th chapter of 1 Corinthians!)

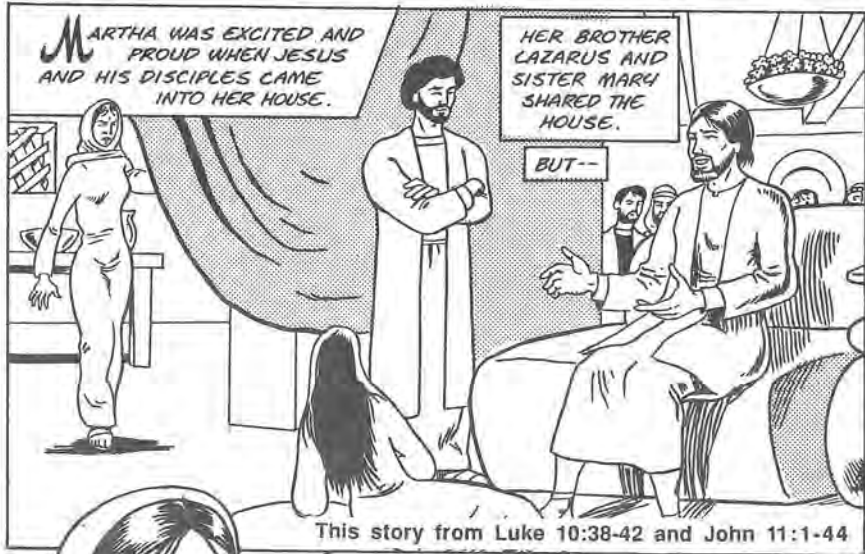
This issue's story also shows us Jesus is our **friend**. He understands our feelings. He cries with us when we cry, and He laughs with us when we laugh. He can do this because He has experienced life here on earth in the flesh just like you and I have (Hebrews 2:17; 4:15; 5:2,7-9).

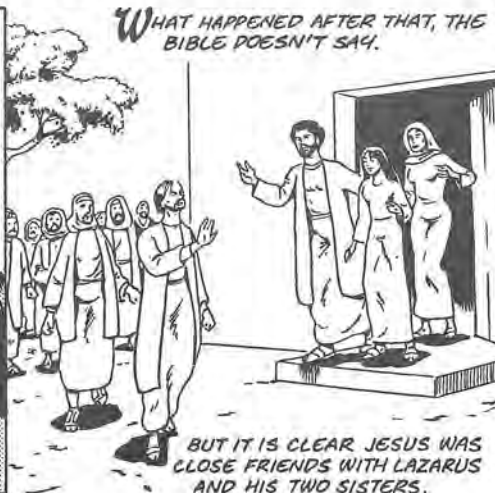
We hope you enjoy, and benefit, from this issue's Bible strip.

LIGHT FOR THE DEAF USPS (087-210) published quarterly by East Frayser Church of Christ, 2285 Frayser Boulevard, Memphis, Tennessee 38127. Second class postage paid at Memphis, Tennessee. **POSTMASTER:** send address changes to: **LIGHT FOR THE DEAF**, 2285 Frayser Boulevard, Memphis, TN 38127. Billy Leavell, Editor.

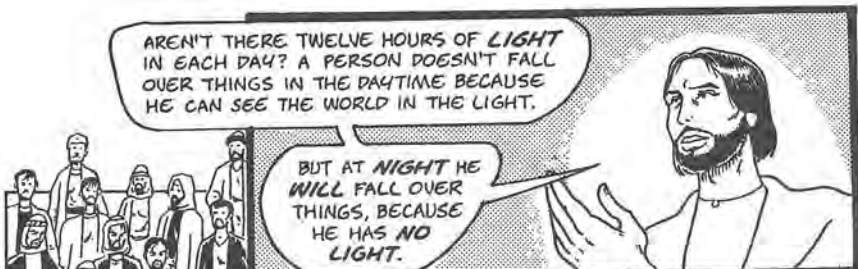
Subscription is free to all, though donations are welcome.

THE RESURRECTION OF LAZARUS









AREN'T THERE TWELVE HOURS OF **LIGHT** IN EACH DAY? A PERSON DOESN'T FALL OVER THINGS IN THE DAYTIME BECAUSE HE CAN SEE THE WORLD IN THE LIGHT.

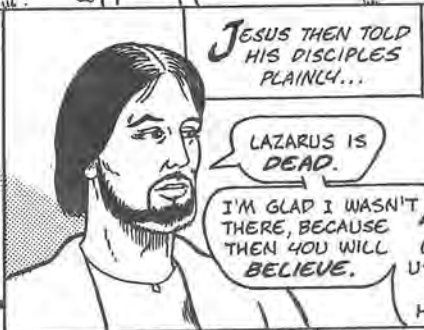
BUT AT **NIGHT** HE WILL FALL OVER THINGS, BECAUSE HE HAS **NO LIGHT**.



OUR FRIEND LAZARUS IS ASLEEP. I GO NOW TO WAKE HIM.



BUT-- LORD-- IF HE'S ASLEEP NOW, HE'LL GET **BETTER**.

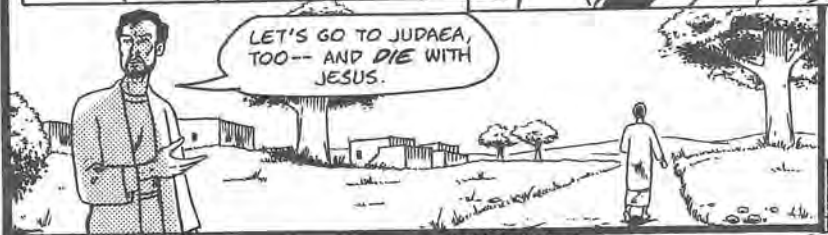


JESUS THEN TOLD HIS DISCIPLES PLAINLY...

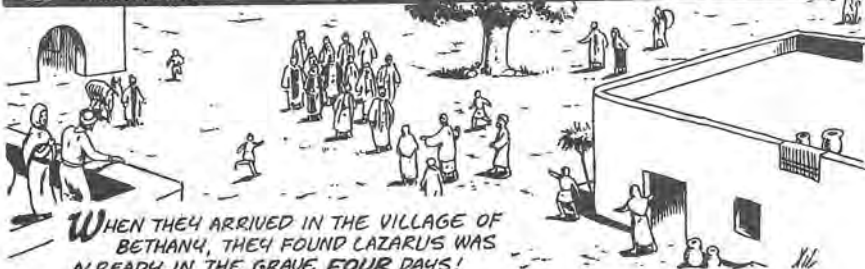
LAZARUS IS **DEAD**.

I'M GLAD I WASN'T THERE, BECAUSE THEN YOU WILL **BELIEVE**.

LET US GO TO HIM.



LET'S GO TO JUDAEA, TOO-- AND **DIE** WITH JESUS.



WHEN THEY ARRIVED IN THE VILLAGE OF BETHANY, THEY FOUND LAZARUS WAS ALREADY IN THE GRAVE FOUR DAYS!

MANY PEOPLE HAD COME TO COMFORT MARY AND MARTHA.



IT WAS TOLD MARTHA THAT JESUS WAS NOW IN TOWN.



MARTHA CAME OUT OF THE HOUSE...



AND MET JESUS.

L-LORD... IF 4-HOU'D COME EARLIER, M-MY BROTHER WOULDN'T HAVE... **DIED.**

BUT I-- I KNOW GOD WILL GIVE YOU **ANYTHING** YOU ASK OF HIM...



YOUR BROTHER WILL RISE AGAIN.

4-YES, I KNOW HE'LL RISE AGAIN--

IN THE RESURRECTION ON THE **LAST DAY.**



I AM THE **RESURRECTION** AND THE **LIFE.**

THE PERSON WHO BELIEVES IN ME WILL **LIVE** EVEN IF HE **DIES.**

AND ANY PERSON WHO LIVES AND BELIEVES IN ME WILL **NEVER DIE.**

MARTHA... DO YOU **BELIEVE** THIS?



4-YES, LORD-- I **BELIEVE--**



YOU ARE THE **CHRIST,** THE **SON OF GOD--**

THE ONE WHO WAS TO COME INTO THE **WORLD.**



MARTHA
CAME
BACK INTO
THE
HOUSE
AND
SPOKE
IN
SECRET
TO HER
SISTER.

THE MASTER'S
HERE, AND HE
CALLS FOR YOU.



WHERE'S
MARY
GOING?

SHE MUST BE GOING
TO THE GRAVE TO
CRY!



MARY
FELL
DOWN
AT
JESUS'
FEET...



LORD... IF I SOB
IF YOU'D COME
SOB EARLIER--

SOB SOB MY
BROTHER WOULDN'T
HAVE-- SOB
DIED--
SOB SOB



JESUS
SAW
MARY
CRYING
SO
HARD--



AND
THE
PEOPLE
ALSO
CRYING--



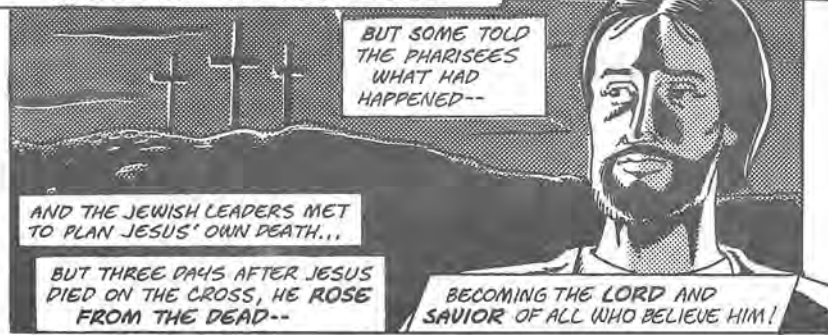
THAT
HE
HIMSELF
CRIED.



SOB WHERE
HAVE YOU
LAID LAZARUS?

COME, LORD...
AND SEE.





Promises of the **Resurrection**

Below are some key verses on the resurrection we have in Christ Jesus. May they comfort you, and if you are not a child of God, encourage you to obey the gospel for the promises. All quotations are from the EVD (English Version for the Deaf).

But God gives His people a free gift-- life forever in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 6:23**

This is what God told us: God has given us eternal life. And this eternal life is in His Son (Jesus). **1 John 5:11**

And this is what the Son promised to us-- life forever. **1 John 2:25**

Jesus answered, "I am the way. I am the truth and the life. The only way to the Father is through Me." **John 14:6**

Jesus destroyed death and showed us the way to have life. Yes! Through the Good News Jesus showed us the way to have life that cannot be destroyed. **2 Timothy 1:10**

"Every person who sees the Son and believes in Him has life forever. I will raise up that person on the last day. That is what My Father wants." **John 6:40**

"Don't be surprised at this. A time is coming when all people who are dead and in their graves will hear His voice. Then they will come out of their graves. The people who did good in life will rise and have life forever. But the people who did evil will rise to be judged guilty." **John 5:28-29**

"For Whither Thou Goest"

by George R. Myers



An easier title for the above is "*For wherever you go.*" This is the slogan that the Leader Dog for the Blind uses to express that the guide dog can lead the blind to a more distant place. I am legally blind and I have one of their dogs to help me be safer when I travel around town to visit people.

I must take care of my dog well and he will take care of me well also. I must continue to train him until he retires. If I stop using him or training him, he would forget everything that he was supposed to do for me.

This is the same for us as Christians and our Bibles. If we don't use our Bibles and take care of God's word well, the Devil will set traps for us to fall into. The more we use God's word every day, the safer we are from falling into Satan's traps. Read 1 John 2:14:

*"I write to you, children,
because you know the Father.
I write to you, fathers,
because you know the One who existed
(lived) from the Beginning.
I write to you, young men,
because you are strong;*

*the Word of God lives in you,
and you have defeated the Evil One."*

--1 John 2:14, EVD

This scripture tells us the reason why we need the Bible is that it will make us "**strong**" Christians and it will keep us from falling into Satan's traps ("**defeated the Evil One**"). There are many reasons for studying the Word of God. Let's look at nine reasons why we need the Words of God (Bible) to help guide our life:

1. *It will make us strong. 1 John 2:14*
2. *It helps us know we have salvation. 1 John 5:13*
3. *It will give us knowledge that God answers our prayers. 1 John 5:14-15 and John 15:7*
4. *It will keep us clean from sin. John 15:3*
5. *It will give us joy. John 15:11*
6. *It will produce peace. John 16:33 and Colossians 3:15*
7. *It guides us in making the decisions of life. Psalm 119:105*
8. *It helps you to share your faith. 1 Peter 3:15*
9. *It guarantees your success. Joshua 1:8*

My leader dog helps me be safer when I travel around town or other places but the Bible keeps me safe from Satan. My dog also gives me more independence, not being tied down to one place. The Bible gives me even more wonderful things in life.

Let's look at the way for happiness found in the first Psalm:

*A person will be truly happy
if he doesn't follow the advice of bad people,
and if he doesn't live like sinners,
and if he doesn't feel at home
with people who don't believe God.
A good person loves the Lord's teachings.
He thinks about them day and night.
So that person becomes strong
like a tree planted by streams of water.
He is like a tree that makes fruit
at the right time.
He is like a tree with leaves that don't die.
Everything he does is successful.*

--Psalm 1:1-3, EVD

As I keep my dog, Berger, trained daily so he can keep me safe and happy as we travel together, let us also read and study God's word daily so that His word can keep us safe and happy in our Christian life, and so that we can know His will for our lives and serve Him always.

Darkness

VS

Light

by
Steve Richards

The Ape Cave is a large underground tunnel. It is near Mount St. Helen's volcano in Washington State. Some deaf students and teachers went to see this cave. Some of them had flashlights.

They walked about one mile into the cave. Then they turned off their flashlights. It was easy to become frightened. They realized how much they appreciate and need light.

Without Jesus, we are walking on a dark path.

Sometimes we stumble and fall. We are cold. We have pain and suffering. We can't see where we are going. We have no hope.

Jesus comes to us because He wants to change our hearts. He wants to give us hope. He wants to make us happy.

Let Jesus come into your life. Let Him cleanse your heart and wash your sins away. Let His light shine in your life. Let Him give you grace, peace and hope.

The Truth About SEX

The Bible tells us God created humans "*male and female*" (Genesis 1:27). If this is true (and here at **Light for the Deaf** we believe it is), then God created sex! Should we blame God for creating something nasty or dirty? No! Why? Because the Bible also says, "God looked at everything He had made, and God saw that everything was *very good*" (Genesis 1:31, EVD). Everything? Yes! That *includes* sex!

In addition, the Bible tells us that God gave Adam and Eve a *blessing*. "God said to them, 'Have many children and spread across the earth'" (Genesis 1:28, EVD). In the original language (and shown in many translations, including the **King James Version**), it is said God told Adam and Eve to "*be fruitful*". Of course God did not talk about apples, oranges, grapes, etc. No, what God told Adam and Eve was for them to have *babies*. The EVD gives us a clear understanding of what God was trying to tell Adam and Eve.

And if Adam and Eve were to have many children for them to spread across the earth, they would have to have *sex*. But God blessed them. That shows God is pleased with sex! After all, it was *He who created sex!*

We later read in Genesis 4:1, "Adam and his wife Eve had *sexual relations*. And Eve gave birth to a baby. The baby was named Cain". Eve was very happy when Cain was born, for she proudly said, "With the Lord's help, I have made a man!"

Is sex dirty? No! God created sex. But He has made laws about sex that we must obey. If we do not obey these laws about sex, then it does

become dirty. Sex is *very good*-- if we obey the laws God has set up on this very important part of our lives.

In Hebrews 13:4 God says, "Marriage should be honored by all people. And every marriage should be kept pure between only two people. God will judge guilty those people who do sexual sins and adultery".

This very important verse tells us marriage should be *honored*. The original Greek the **EVD** translated "*honored*" means *precious and dear*. This is excellent advice for us today! Marriage should be thought of as something **precious, dear and worthy to be honored**. It is sad that so many people today think marriage is nothing. They think it is not important. They think it is all right to violate your vows and have sex with someone you are not married to.

When we turn to the **King James Version**, we read that the "bed is *undefiled*". The word "*undefiled*" means **not dirty**. This verse talks about sex on the bed. When a man and woman are married to each other, and they have sexual intercourse, their sex is *clean and approved by God*. In this way, the bed is "*undefiled*" (**not dirty**). That is why the **EVD** translates this verse to read, "Every marriage should be kept *pure between only two people*."

But this verse goes on to say God will judge *guilty* those people who do **sexual sins and adultery**. The **King James Version** uses the words "*whoremonger*" and "*adulterer*". The word "*whoremonger*" is an old English word we do not use today. It means a *fornicator*, a person who does the sin of *fornication*. And what is "*fornication*"? It means **sexual sin**. So a "*whoremonger*" is a **sexual sinner**. You understand now why the **EVD** translated, "those people who do sexual sins". *Fornication* covers all kinds of **sexual sin**. Below are examples of fornication:

1. Sexual intercourse between unmarried couples.
2. Adultery (a married person having sexual intercourse with someone not his or her spouse).
3. Rape (forcing a person to have sex with you).
4. Incest (sexual intercourse with a member of your own family).
5. Homosexuality (both male "gays" and female lesbians).

There are many other sexual sins, but the above are the most practiced today. And by looking at the above list, you can get an idea of what is meant by "*sexual sins*".

The apostle Paul says, "Flee fornication" (1 Corinthians 6:18, KJV). The EVD makes this clear for deaf readers: "So *run away* from sexual sin." In the Old Testament, when Potiphar's wife tried to tempt Joseph into the sin of adultery, he *ran away* (Genesis 39:7-12). Joseph knew if he stayed, the temptation would be too strong for him to stand against. He knew he would fall into sin then.

The person who is saved by Christ should turn away from sin. He should not defile (*make dirty*) his body by doing sexual sins. A study of Ephesians 5:3 (both KJV and EVD) shows **fornication** (*sexual sin*), **uncleanness** (*dirty life*), and **covetousness** (*evil desire*) should not even once be named among God's holy people, **Christians**.

Yes, you are to run away from sexual sin! Sin is *not* dirty. But it *will* become dirty if you use it in the wrong way!

PRACTICE SAFE SEX...



ABSTAIN

if you're unmarried

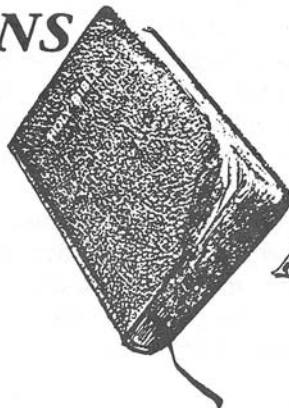


STAY FAITHFUL

to your spouse if you're married

Read Hebrews 13:4

QUESTIONS



AND ANSWERS

All answers are the responsibility of the editor. Send your questions to the Editor, Light for the Deaf, 2285 Frayser Boulevard, Memphis, TN 38127.

Is it true denominations are not found in the Bible?

You are right, there are no denominations in the Bible. The word *denomination* means something that is named and a division of something. For example, American money is divided into \$1 denominations, \$5 denominations, \$10 denominations, \$20 denominations, etc. When we talk about religious matters, a denomination means a *division of the Lord's church*.

The apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 1:10 plainly tells the church in Corinth "that there be no divisions among you." That church in Corinth was dividing up into smaller groups each of which followed different preachers: Peter, Apollos, and Paul himself (v. 11-12). Paul said this meant the church in Corinth was *not spiritual* ("carnal", KJV) (1 Corinthians 3:3).

It is a shame that we divide ourselves into smaller groups,

often criticizing each other.

Paul said the only thing he decided to know among the people in Corinth was *Christ, and Him crucified* (nailed on a cross) (1 Corinthians 2:2). This is the **Good News**, or *gospel* (1 Corinthians 15:1-4), and it shows God's power to save (1 Corinthians 2:4-5). Those who work for Christ are just *servants* who help people to believe in Christ (1 Corinthians 3:5).

It is best to believe in Jesus Christ and His power to save as well as to obey Him. We should be just plain followers of Him. This is what the New Testament teaches. Then we will be members of His one and only New Testament church (Matthew 16:18, Acts 2:47), and not of some man-made denomination.

FINAL WORDS

As we bring this quarter's issue to a close, we sadly inform you of the passing of Gordon Grose of St. Louis, Missouri. His widow sent us a contribution in memory of her husband and a request we continue sending her *Light for the Deaf* to her. We are most happy to do so. We have sent her a thank-you note and our sympathy in the loss of her husband. But we rejoice that Gordon Grose was the kind of elder in the church who had an abiding interest in missions, including the deaf work. Amelia, may God be with you in your grief and may He strengthen you in the days to come. And we hope you enjoy our future issues of *Light for the Deaf*.

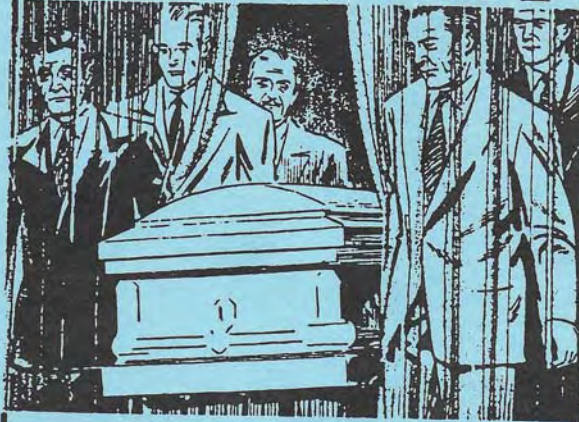
**"Those same Scriptures
tell about Me!"**
--*Jesus*, John 5:39



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Every time you move without informing us of your new address, the Post Office has to send your copy back to us, and when they do, they must charge us 35 cents. With quite a number of people moving around, that can add up considerably. So once again we would like to remind you to please let us know your new address before we send *Light for the Deaf* to you!

BIBLE VERSE



Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection. I am life. The person who believes in me will have life again after he dies. And the person who lives and believes in me will never really die." --John 11:25,26, EVD



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