



Volume 29 ● Number 150

Exalting Christ among the Deaf

October



November



December



1995

Praise God from
whom all blessings
flow!

Personally from Billy

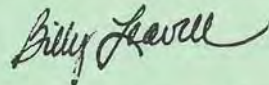
We goofed last issue. On the front page we promised an article "Are Men and Women Equal?" along with other articles. But inside you could not find the article. What happened is that we did indeed schedule the article for last issue, but found that we did not have room for it. We forgot to remove it from our list on the front page. This issue we have put it on page 6. We hope you also enjoy the articles we've chosen from Patrick Ong, Jack Williamson, and George Myers.

We have not yet had a letter criticizing us for Danny McCain's article last issue about *Women Interpreters*. Probably it is because our publication is slanted toward the deaf, who naturally depend more on interpreters. But surely somewhere out there is someone who disagrees with us. If so, we're still open to your side of the argument.

Some sad news: Barbara Williams, wife of deaf evangelist Loyd Williams, passed away October 19 at their home in Houston, Texas after a long illness. "She was the best wife any Christian could have," Loyd said, "and I really did not deserve such a wonderful and faithful lady." We weep with Loyd at Barbara's passing, but we also rejoice with Loyd for Barbara was a child of God and we will meet again at Jesus' feet. Loyd graciously consented to write an article on his beloved Barbara. It is found on page 11.

This issue's featured Bible story comic strip deals with *The Storm*, about the time Jesus stilled a storm on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus also calms the storms of our lives-- our disappointments, our crises, our sad moments, etc. We need to let Jesus have His way with us!

Finally, my prayers are with you for a joyous holiday season. I love you in the Lord and hope to see you again in a few months with the next issue.



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The Storm

This story from Matthew 8:18,23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25



BUT THEN A SUDDEN WIND
BLEW ACROSS THE LAKE.



THE WIND BECAME SO STRONG
THAT THE WATER FROM THE
LAKE BEGAN TO FILL THE BOAT!



THE MASTER!
HE'S ASLEEP
EVEN WITH
THIS STORM!



MASTER!
MASTER!

LORD!
SAVE US!

WE'LL DROWN!



DON'T YOU
CARE?



WHY ARE YOU SO AFRAID?

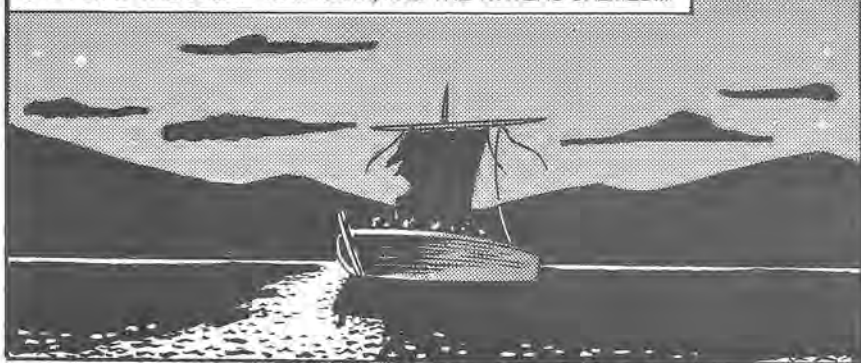


YOU HAVE LITTLE FAITH!

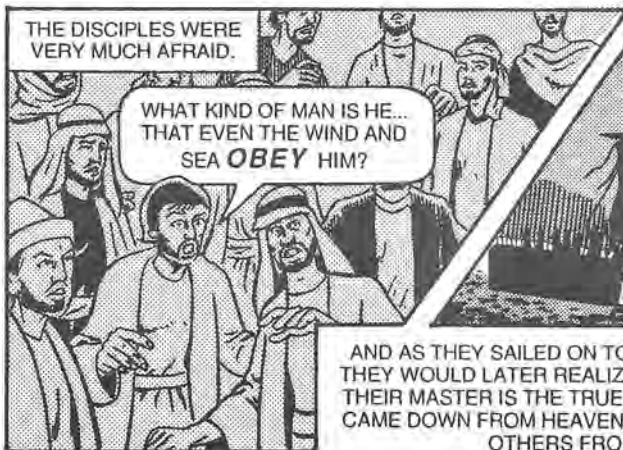


PEACE!
BE STILL!

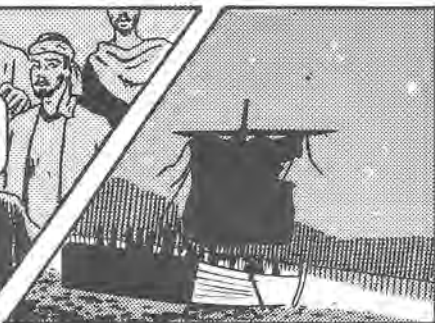
SUDDENLY THE STORM WAS GONE, AND THE WATERS CALMED...



THE DISCIPLES WERE VERY MUCH AFRAID.



WHAT KIND OF MAN IS HE... THAT EVEN THE WIND AND SEA OBEY HIM?



AND AS THEY SAILED ON TOWARD THE SHORE, THEY WOULD LATER REALIZE MORE FULLY THAT THEIR MASTER IS THE TRUE SON OF GOD... WHO CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN TO SAVE THEM AND OTHERS FROM SIN!

Are Men and Women Equal?



by Mike Atteberry

Not long ago someone asked me a good serious question: "How can men and women be considered equal?"

Let us go to the Divine Word of God for answers and see what God says about this. They may not be equal in authority "*for the husband is the head of the wife the same as Christ is the head of the church... the church is under the authority of Christ. So it is the same with you wives. You should be under the authority of your husbands in everything*" (Ephesians 5:22-24, EVD). In these same verses the wives are to submit (obey) their husbands, but it also says in verse 21, "*Be willing to obey (submit) each other. Do this because you respect Christ.*" Paul inspired by the Holy Spirit tells us that husbands are to love their wives and not to treat her like she is a slave.

The apostle Paul also tells Christian men in the early church to "*live with your wives in an understanding way. You should show respect to your wives. They are weaker than you. **But God gives your wives the same blessing that He gives you-- the grace that gives true life.** Do these things so that nothing will trouble your prayers*" (1 Peter 3:7, EVD).

Here Peter says that wives are equal with their husbands in spiritual blessings that are in Christ. They are equal in spiritual maturity, both men and women are to have the same fruit of the Spirit as stated in Galatians 5:22-23. They both are to have "*love, joy, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.*" Both men and women are equal in spirit toward God. God gives each man and woman the same blessings in Christ. We each become a new person after baptism. Men and women receive the same forgiveness of sins. We are equal in salvation and in obtaining eternal life. We are equal in understanding God's will for us. Men and women are equal in responsibility toward God to grow mature in all things in Christ.

A Love Letter to You

by Jack H. Williamson



Everyone enjoys getting a letter to read from wife, husband, son, daughter, father and mother, grandpa and grandma, friends, etc.

We find a wonderful love letter to everyone in this world. Where is this love letter found? It is the Holy Bible which is the loving Word of God. What is the letter about? Let everyone read some verses quoted from the Bible:

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

But God commendeth His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

1 John 4:10

We love Him, because He first loved us.

1 John 4:19

Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Jude 21

This love letter lets us put our love in God because of His Son, Jesus Christ, who died for our life. This love letter shows that God wants to save our souls from eternal death. O, God is really love for everyone. So everyone of you come to study the love letter and worship God every Sunday (the Lord's Day). If you practice memorizing the verses in your heart, you would be sure to love the letter of God.

All the Scriptures quoted on this page are from the King James Version.

MUST (

by Georg

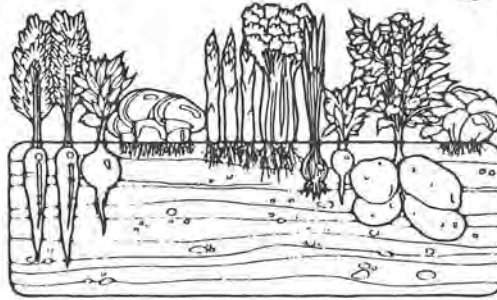


We need to allow Jesus Christ to be the Lord as well as the Savior of our life. The Lord has asked us to give our whole self (heart) to Him (Matthew 22:37).

Suppose that I've got a motorcycle at home. It is broken and it's something that I couldn't fix. I'll need to take it to a mechanic and say, "Mac, I want you to fix this motorcycle, but don't touch the motor." That's silly. The mechanic won't start working on it unless he has the whole motorcycle.

It is the same with us and Christ. We can't come to Jesus Christ and say, "Lord Jesus, I want you to do this and that in my life. Here is a problem for You to take, but, Lord, please don't bother these other things in my life. I'm controlling them!" If we say this to Him, He would answer, "Son, I've got to have your whole life. If you want Me to wash you and to cleanse you and to make your life run the way I want it, I've got to have your whole life."

This is what the Bible means by "believe". Jesus Christ said that you have to commit your whole life to Him, and He has to be not only your Savior but also your Master. He is the Lord and Master of your life. He loves us,



and He knows our every need. You really have to believe that in your own heart and truly give all.

Ever wonder what it means by "May your hearts be happy forever" (Psalms 22:26)? It means how you truly live. Let us try to understand what is meant by the word "heart" from the Bible viewpoint (read Matthew 13).

The heart is the soil in which the seed is sown (planted). Whatever the seed is, it'll reproduce after its own kind. The kind of seed that is planted in your heart is what you have heard and believe. There is only one way to open the human heart and that is by teaching. Jesus said the one who received the word into an "honest and good heart" brought forth fruit. Shallow soil cannot grow a good, large crop. There is no depth, no strength. It is the same with the hearts or minds of people. There are many strong minds (deep soil). Sow the seed, the word of God, into such soil, and if they do not allow Satan to steal the word, it will bring forth much fruit. In other words, you need to share the Word with others so that they also will believe.

Take the shallow soil (weak-

Give All

by R. Myers



... minded person who gives only a little of their heart). While you may let the seed, Word, into you, you do not have much growth in Christian faith or you don't share with others because you don't have a strong faith. You take in the Word of God, but the riches of this world and following cares, will take away all that Word out of your life. It should have belonged to Christ but now is lost.

Have you ever seen a plant that grew from either the good soil and the bad soil? We see some plants that don't produce fruits or don't grow well because of the bad soil. We also see plants that produce many good fruits and grow well because of the good soil.

There is growing from the soil (hearts, minds) of men with a heavy crop of sin because this crop is absorbing all the bad things in life like a bad soil. You find such a person is dead to all that is morally (man's attitude) or spiritually good.

If you put the better seed, the living seed (the Word of God), into the soil (hearts, minds) and cultivate it (develop or taking care of), you will have a new life develop from the new

seed. The best way to cultivate (develop or taking care of) the soil (heart, mind) is to be around the right people and attend church and Bible classes.

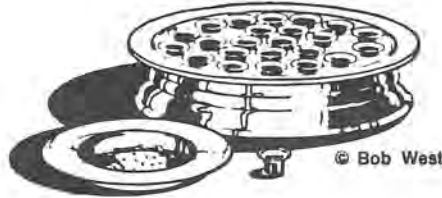
Let's look at the story of Lydia in Acts 16:11-15. The Lord opened Lydia's heart, not her physical heart, but the mental heart. The Word of God is the seed (Jesus said so). Paul had the Word of God also. Lydia was ignorant of God's way of salvation. "She worshiped the true God" (Acts 16:14). Paul spoke to her, she heard and understood, and thus her heart was opened, and she began to share the gospel by obeying the gospel.

You can have intellectual growth only by someone teaching you. The life is in the seed (teaching). Spiritual life is in God's spiritual seed, His Word the Bible. Place this teaching (Words of God) in the soil (heart, mind) and let the whole heart receive it (understanding), and life will develop (unless Satan is allowed to take the seed out of the heart). Let us make the seed of the Kingdom grow by teaching others. Let other people hear, believe, obey, and a life will be developed that God will accept and bless.

Attend worship services and Bible classes and let your heart become good soil. Then let the seed grow into a beautiful plant.

A Memorial

by Patrick Ong



Joshua 4:1-11 reminds us that God wants us to remember Him and the wonderful things He has done for us. He told Joshua to choose 12 men-- one from each family group. They were each to take one rock from the middle of the river and carry it with them to the other side of the river. Joshua set these 12 rocks up at Gilgal for a memorial.

Joshua told the people that in the future their children would ask what these rocks meant. Then the people were to tell the children how the Lord dried up the Jordan River so they could walk across it. These rocks were to help the people of Israel remember how God had helped them.

We also have a memorial to help us remember that Jesus gave His life for us. When our children ask us what the communion service means, we should be able to tell them. When a person believes and is baptised in Christ, he or she can partake in the communion service. We are remembering how Jesus died for us so that our sins might be forgiven. And we are looking forward to His coming again.

God bless your health and prosper you in Christ!



Gabriel blew his horn for her

by Loyd Williams



God called Barbara home, Thursday night, October 19, 1995. She was the beloved wife of Loyd Williams and his partner in Missions and in life. She had been ill with Primary Pulmonary Hypertension, a rare lung disease for the past eight years. Through the many prayers of the brethren from all over the world God blessed her with years beyond what the Doctors had predicted.

Loyd and Barbara met at the Texas School for the Deaf at Austin when Barbara had made 100 in a test in Math and had to invite a boy to a party. She was very shy and did not know any of the boys but her best friend Melba Hallmark knew a shy little boy named Loyd and showed him to Barbara. Barbara decided she liked him and asked Melba to invite him for her. The party itself was canceled, but Barbara and Loyd became very good friends. After five years they were married. Three days later Loyd entered Abilene Christian College and Barbara worked on the campus supporting him. After leaving College they moved to Houston and established a Church of Christ for the deaf there. After several years they moved to Dallas to establish another congregation and then to Austin and finally they became World Missionaries and traveled together to many countries helping start a work for the deaf. Barbara had always been by Loyd's side and after forty-two years of marriage and much suffering on the part of Barbara during the last year, God called her home.

In life, Barbara was always smiling. A few months ago our neighbor asked her, "Do you and Loyd ever fuss?" Barbara said, "Of course." The neighbor said, "I have known you both for over 24 years and have never seen you angry, always smiling and happy." This was Barbara! She loved to have people in her home and cook excellent meals. She even wanted Loyd to make a promise to her that if he was away in a meeting and she could

not go with him, he should stay and finish the meeting even if she died. She said she had her angels watching over her. She dreamed that she might win the Lottery and give the money to the Schools of Preaching for the deaf and to the Mission work. God blessed the family by having them with her the last days of her life and around her bedside when she flew away. (Song: "I Fly Away") All the family and close friends gathered around the bed right afterwards and Loyd offered up a prayer to the Father for the many wonderful years that He gave us and for the wonderful children, who are all Christians that Barbara had a larger part in loving and influencing through the years.

Brother Hollis Maynard, our life-long beloved friend was asked by Barbara before she died to conduct her funeral and he felt honored. The church building was packed with both deaf and hearing who loved her. One comment on the service was; "Loyd, the service for Barbara was the most beautiful I have ever been to and could feel God looking down on it."

One of her last requests just before she left us was that we ask the Funeral Director to make both of her hands in the sign *ILY* folded on her chest with a lovely rose, her favorite flower between her hands.



I know that the family will miss her but look forward to the great reunion in heaven with her and all the loved ones who have gone before us. *No more pain, no more tears, no more suffering...with God and the redeemed from all ages.*



Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

2 Timothy 4:8, New King James Version

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

This question is from Ray Powell of Birmingham, AL.

Why did Elijah tell King Ahab he had better go home since the rain would come, and then he (Elijah) prayed to God?

Your question as you originally wrote it in your letter was not really clear, but I was fortunate to meet you in person when I was in Birmingham recently, and you clarified your question for me.

For our readers, we will need to review the story before we give our answer to your question.

In 1 Kings 17:1 we find Elijah warning King Ahab of Israel that there would be no dew nor rain over the land. Then Elijah disappeared to another country for three years. There was a drought (dry time) over all the land of Israel. In the third year God sent Elijah back to Israel where he met King Ahab. In 1 Kings 18:16-19 we read about Elijah telling Ahab there should be a contest between the living God and the false god Baal. In verses 20-40 we read the amazing story of how God won the contest by hurling fire from heaven to the altar. The people admitted Elijah's God was the only true living God.

Then in verse 41 we read about Elijah telling Ahab to go and eat and drink, because there was the noise of much rain coming. In verse 42 Elijah bowed low to the ground. His face went down between his knees. While he was in this position, he told his servant to look toward the sea (verse 43). The servant did so, but saw nothing. Elijah repeated this seven times. Then in verse 44 the servant said he saw a cloud coming up out of the sea looking small like a man's hand. Elijah turned to Ahab and warned him to get into his chariot and hurry home before the rain stopped him. In verse 45 we read about the sky becoming black with clouds blown by the wind. Finally the rain came down very hard.

Now, as you asked me in Birmingham, why did Elijah have to pray so hard when he knew God would send the rain to Israel again?

Jesus says the Father already knows what we need before we pray to Him for these things. He said, "Don't worry, because your Father in heaven knows that you need these things" (Matthew 6:32, EVD). But He encourages us to pray for what we need even if God already knows about these needs. This helps our faith. It helped Elijah's own faith, and probably that of the other Israelites also.

This question is from Jimmy Bailey of Newark, AR.

In Genesis 11:1-9 we read about the people trying to build a

tower to reach into heaven. Were all those people of one race or of different races? What came to my thought earlier this year is I am having my doubts God scattered them and confounded their language just for trying to build a tower to reach into heaven, so there must really have been another reason God scattered them.

There are really two questions in your phrase, Jimmy. The first question is whether or not those people of one race or of different races. The second question is what was the real reason God scattered the people.

For our readers, I will review the story in Genesis 11:1-9. It happened several years after the great flood that destroyed the whole world. How many years, we do not know. Noah's descendants moved from the East and found a plain in the country named Shinar (today called Babylon). They agreed to stay together and build a tower that would reach into heaven. But the Lord stopped this by mixing their language. They couldn't understand each other. So they scattered to different parts of the world.

To answer your first question: We know that all races and nation descended from Noah's three sons. If the descendants of all three sons were in the land of Shinar, then yes, they were of all different races. We do not know if the differences already showed, or if these differences developed after many years. We know so little about genetic biology. Scientists are just beginning to find how the different races developed. Even though they were of different races, they all spoke just one language. But God mixed their language so that today we have thousands of different languages. Linguists (professors experienced in the study of language) say all languages can be traced to one single language.

As for the second question, you guessed correctly. God was not upset about the tower reaching toward heaven. Even today we have very tall buildings like the Empire Building in New York and the Sears Building in Chicago. Both reach higher than the tower in Shinar. Also, we have had astronauts and cosmonauts who have orbited hundreds of miles above the earth. Even some of our astronauts have flown to the moon thousands of miles away from the earth.

The real clue is in what they said-- they said, "Let us make a name." They wanted to be renown for their feat. Even God, when He looked down upon these people, said, "Nothing will be restrained [*kept*] from them which they have imagined to do." (Genesis 11:6, KJV). The real problem is that they were turning away from God and looking to themselves. Also some Bible scholars think that the tower was really a ziggurat, those tall buildings built for worship of false gods. They evolved into pyramids which ancient people used to worship false gods. (The Egyptians used the pyramids to bury their dead kings and queens, but they did so with thoughts of these false gods.) These same scholars think that the unfinished ziggurat in Shinar was still standing until the time of Alexander the Great when he destroyed it.

LIGHT ON Light for the Deaf

Mail may be sent to *Light for the Deaf* at 2285 Frayser Boulevard, Memphis, TN 38127. E-mail also may be sent to either BLEavell@eworld.com or WLEavell@aol.com.

I agree there is nothing scripturally wrong for females to interpret and nothing in the scriptures against females interpreting. It is sad this seems to be the subject most disagreed on among the Churches of Christ.

--Jimmy Bailey
405 Macedonia Road
Newark, AR 72562

Jimmy told us to go ahead and print his name and address.

Billy, just read your latest issue of *Light for the Deaf*. As always excellent articles and stories. I was especially gratified to see the article on "Christian Women as Interpreters". We have a few people in our congregation that feel uncomfortable with women interpreters, especially if they use their voice. I have made copies of the article to use for the purpose of "instruction and enlightenment".

--Jerry Drennan,
Texas

Thank you for *Light for the Deaf* for July, August, September 1995, I enjoyed all the lessons in it, especially the lesson on *Christian Women and Interpreting*. No, I see nothing wrong for Christian women interpreting for the deaf in Bible classes or worship services. I feel and believe that it is alright for Christian women to interpret Bible classes and worship services for the deaf.

--Wayne Bostater,
California

Regarding Danny McCain's article "*Christian Women and Interpreting*", I think he hit the nail on the head. Mr. McCain's passion on this topic ripples through his arguments. I've not heard this issue seriously raised out here in the Arizona Southwest, but I pray it may be diffused and resolved wherever it springs up.

Can't help but notice how the illustrated woman interpreter resembles Mona Eason of the Roebuck Parkway Church of Christ in Birmingham, my original sign language teacher. Thanks for the pleasant reminder.

--Mike Pulley,
Phoenix, AZ

We are surprised you think the drawing of the lady interpreter was based on Mona Eason. Our drawing was completely imaginary. Perhaps our subconscious led us to illustrate a resemblance to Mona! But glad you had pleasant reminiscences.

Just greetings to you. I received your latest issue of *Light for the Deaf*. You are doing such a wonderful work with that. Keep up the great work for the Kingdom.

--Keith Gafner,
Kenya, East Africa

*Keith is an agricultural missionary in Kenya. He says **Light for the Deaf** helps the hearing as well as the deaf in Kenya. We thank him for his complimentary remarks.*

BIBLE VERSE



MATTHEW 28:19

Go ye therefore, and teach
all nations, baptizing them in the
name of the Father, and of the
Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Light for the Deaf

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