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We, at C.P.R. Ministries would appreciate it very much if you would forward this newsletter to many of your friends. So few today in our churches have ever heard these truths. Allow the Holy Spirit to birth a curiosity in their hearts. Maybe they will join us in getting these truths around the world. "The fields are white already unto harvest; BUT the laborers are few."

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Heartbeat

Winter Issue 2020

The Official Newsletter

THE HISTORY OF SILENT MIGHT

The most popular Christmas carol EVER!

The backstory is that the priest went for a walk before he wrote it, and he looked out over a very quiet, winter-laden town.

It was Christmas Eve, 1818, when the now-famous carol was first performed as **Stille Nacht Heilige Nacht**. Joseph Mohr, the young priest who wrote the lyrics, played the guitar and sang along with Franz Xaver Gruber, the choir director who had written the melody. An organ builder and repair man working at the church took a copy of the six-verse song to his home village. There, it was picked up and spread by two families of traveling folk singers, who performed around northern Europe.

The composition evolved, and was translated into over 300 languages with many different arrangements for various voices and ensembles. It was sung in churches, in town squares, even on the battlefield during World War I, when, during a temporary truce on Christmas Eve, soldiers sang carols from home. "Silent Night," by 1914, known around the world, was sung simultaneously in French, German and English.

After the original manuscript was lost, for decades, some speculated that the music had been written by Haydn, Mozart or Beethoven. In 1994, an original manuscript was found in Mohr's handwriting, with Gruber named as composer.

Today, the Franz Xaver Gruber Museum in Hallein and the Joseph Mohr School in Wagrain, Austria honor the creators of this classic carol.

The English version of "Silent Night" is typically sung in three verses corresponding with the original 1, 6, and 2 verses.

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright. 'Round you Virgin Mother and Child, Holy Infant so tender and mild. Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight! Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Alleluia! Christ, the Savior is born, Christ, the Savior is born.

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light. Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace.

Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

"Silent Night" is still performed around the world celebrating Christmas.

We can all rejoice in the fact we serve a LIVING SAVIOR!

A CURIOUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

When we celebrate a loved one's birthday, the procedure is pretty much universal. We congratulate the birthday person and tell them how glad we are to know them as a friend. We usually sing "Happy Birthday" to them and enjoy a special birthday meal and give them gifts to open, to declare our love and appreciation of them as our dear friend. All the attention goes to the person whose birthday we are celebrating.

Imagine if you will it being your birthday, and the crowd arrives for the celebration. Instead of giving you gifts, they begin giving each other gifts and pass out flyers about an upcoming event, encouraging each other to buy tickets right away so they won't miss this upcoming exciting event.

Also, imagine all the attendees congratulating each other for their achievements of the past year, while ignoring you completely. How would you feel?

Now, imagine our present-day celebration of Christ's birthday on Dec. 25. When the crowd arrives, some immediately declare December is not your real birthday, and they refuse to celebrate it with you. Those in attendance do bring gifts for everyone, but not for Christ. Half of the attendees are watching the latest sports event on TV, or playing games, unaware that Jesus Christ is even in their midst.

When the festivities begin, the attendees begin singing; "Rudolph, the red nosed reindeer" or "Frosty the Snowman," or "Here comes Santa Claus, or "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas." They might even forget to say thanks for God's precious gift of His only Son who came to redeem whosoever will, or even for the food and blessings of life.

It is interesting to note the contrast to this picture with the one of the shepherds who went to celebrate Jesus' birthday. In **Luke 2:20** It tells us; "And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them."

How do we celebrate the Lord Jesus's birthday? What kind of music about Christmas do you enjoy the most? Do we sing; "It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas; or Jingle bells?

What do you think would happen if instead, you sang; "Thou art worthy," or "Thank you Jesus for all you've done; thank you Lord;" or Holy, Holy, Lord God almighty."

What if everyone forgot about their presents and brought the gift of themselves and all their talents to be totally submitted to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in 2020?

What if, when we came to His birthday party, we brought a copy of our total balance sheet and financial statements to present to Him for His inspection? What if you were to tell Him you acknowledge you own nothing; that you are His bond slave, and we thank Him for the privilege of trusting Him completely for the free gift of eternal life and His supplying of all our needs. How do you think Jesus would respond if you honored his birthday by saying what David said before he gave billions of dollars for the building of the temple in I Chron. 29:10-16 "Wherefore David blessed the Lord before all the congregation: and David said, Blessed be thou, Lord God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth IS THINE; thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all. Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name. But WHO AM I, and what is my people that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? For all things come of thee, and OF THINE OWN HAVE WE GIVEN THEE." Should we be remind-



ed of what our Lord Jesus said; IN THE SAME MEA-SURE YOU GIVE, IT WILL BE GIVEN UNTO YOU." Luke 6:38. Translation: If you use an eyedropper, I will respond in like kind. If you use a front loader, I will respond with a larger one.

Do we think such a birthday party as that would please our Lord Jesus Christ?

Sometimes we need to be reminded of when our Lord was asked what the greatest commandment was; He said: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with ALL thine heart, with ALL thy soul, with ALL thy strength, and with ALL thy mind."

Can you imagine what could happen this Christmas if all of us came to His birthday party with this frame

of mind? Jesus Christ asks only one question of us this Christmas season: "Do you LOVE ME?

Doctrinal reasoning tells me this practice would be much more advantageous than waiting until we stand before the Judgement Seat of Christ, for the final audit, or the Great White throne of judgement, when it will be too late to make changes.

In **Psalm 107:31, 32**; says; "Oh that men would praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men! Let them EXALT Him also in the congregation of the people and praise Him in the assembly of the elders."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS!

MINISTRY REPORT

December 2020

As with everyone else, the Covid virus has curtailed most large gatherings, but the Lord in His mercy continues to open new doors of outreach. Suddenly people from around the world are seeking out information on their computers and finding our six DVD seminar. Consequently, we are receiving phone calls and emails from around the world from hungry hearts, seeking biblical truth, and asking for scriptural counsel concerning their present situation. I have been amazed at how the Holy Spirit has opened and convicted hearts to where they want to obey the Lord regardless of the cost. Attitudes like this are the material revivals are made of! Scores of lives are being transformed with no pastor present, and the Holy Spirit alone bringing deep conviction to repentance. One person after another calls or writes to tell me, "Jesus is sufficient!"

To give you a sample of how widespread this response is, it includes So. Africa, Sweden, Brazil, Spain, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Ireland, Puerto Rico, the Bahamas and many states in the U.S. A couple of pastors have also informed me the Lord has put this message on their hearts to declare to their nation!

Because of your prayers and support, this message is being released in countries where missionaries could never go! Remember; NONE of this could ever happen without YOU! You allow us to :"Go into all the world and preach the gospel!" When the Holy Spirit brings forth fruit like this, it is GOOD fruit that remains." **John 15:8** "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear MUCH FRUIT; so, shall ye be my disciples."

Again, in **PROVERBS 11:30 KJV** we are told; "The fruit of the righteous [is] a tree of life; and he that winneth souls [is] wise."

The world thinks religion is foolish and a waste of time, but God's word says if you practice it, you are WISE. I choose to believe God over man!

As we watch the changing atmosphere in the world today, we must conclude the end is near. Right now America is honoring God the Father's wife (Israel) by establishing her in her land and returning to her Jerusalem as her capitol. But scripture tells us in the end,

Zechariah 14:2 (KJV) 2 "For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; (NOTE:) Jerusalem has not been the capital of Israel until this past year, when President Trump returned it to them.) and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity."

Matthew 10:23 KJV But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, <u>till the Son of man be come.</u>" If you are awaiting the coming of the Lord as King of Kings and Lord of Lords, watch

Ministry Report Continued on Page 4

ISRAEL! The future is bound up in Jehovah's wife. "Even so come quickly Lord Jesus!"

In the meantime, "OCCUPY!" Keep your hands on the plow and don't look back. **Luke 9:62** "And Jesus said unto him, NO MAN having put his hand to the plow, AND LOOKING BACK, is fit for the kingdom of God."

Instead, look straight ahead at two landmarks and keep them lined up the same all the way down the field and you will plow a straight furrow, coming out on the other end to hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant." Matthew 25:21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord."

Whenever any individual determines to fulfil Christ's great commission with whatever gifts He gives you, (See I Cor. 12) your reward will be great, when He comes again.

In the meantime, memorize **Phil. 4:6,7** "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7. And the peace of God which passeth all understanding, SHALL keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

For those who are experiencing anxiety right now, be comforted by the fact I have read the last chapter, AND WE WIN! **John 16:33**: "These things I have 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."

ARE YOUR PLANS MESSED UP RIGHT NOW?

Many Christians are somewhat confused right now with all the turmoil happening around them. Many thought they had all their ducks in a row and then everything exploded, politically, financially, and spiritually. May I suggest you reorganize your thinking and focus to line up with God's plan for you.

In **Jeremiah 29:11** The Lord said to Israel: "For I know the thoughts that I have toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

In the New Testament Jesus describes his followers as "sheep." May I suggest a reason for this: a sheep has the smallest brain for it's size of any animal. When describing the care of sheep by the shepherd, we find evidences of this characteristic in sheep. Ps. 23 of the sheep, "I shall not want." This suggests the sheep is totally dependent on the shepherd for all it's needs.

Next; "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures." It is the nature of a sheep when it gets into lush grass to get frisky and run off and get lost. Therefore the shepherd makes them lie down so they can only eat the grass in their immediate reach. When they have exhausted that area, the shepherd allows them to move and lie down again. The shepherd knows the most dangerous time for a sheep is when they are left to their own devices during a time of abundance.

"He leadeth me beside the still waters." If sheep get into fast running water and stumble, their coat will become waterlogged and cause them to be drowned. Again, the shepherd restricted them because of his incredible concern for their safety.

The most important lesson the shepherd must teach the sheep is to TRUST Him completely! "Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me."

In every situation of life, our Shepherd will TEST us, to see who will not run away or fail to hear His voice. Those who do: will experience, "I shall not want." And Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life."

Jesus said: "MY sheep Hear my voice and they FOL-LOW ME." In this time of complete turmoil, are we listening for His voice and trusting His promise: "All things work together for our GOOD." Present circumstances might not feel good, smell good, or taste good; but He said ALL THINGS do work for our good." Can we trust Him about this?

It might be helpful to remember a similar situation in the Church, in the book of Acts. Before Jesus left this planet he commanded his followers to "GO YE INTO ALL THE EARTH and preach the gospel." When He left, the disciples stayed in Jerusalem. Many were afraid of the Jews. In Acts chapter 7 the Jews stoned Stephen,

and persecution erupted toward the followers of Jesus. The result was, they were scattered in every direction. The persecution didn't taste good, feel good or smell good; but it caused the infant Church to obey the Shepherd, and multitudes were saved. God had a plan, and through difficult circumstances, the Church was forced to do what the Shepherd had told them to do from the beginning.

Why do you suppose the Lord is stirring our nests right now? The Lord's affliction of His own is always for our good, and to accomplish His plans. Remember, it was through the persecution of the Church that Saul became Paul, and turned the world right side up! He will use trials to raise up new voices, equipped to fulfil His eternal purposes. Was it enjoyable? No! But it was necessary for the Lord to cause His people, using difficult circumstances, to fulfill His commands and bring forth "much fruit." This is why He allows us to be tested and admonished today. Proverbs 3:5-7: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In ALL THY WAYS acknowledge HIM, and he SHALL direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes, fear the Lord, and depart from evil." I Thess. 5:18 "IN EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS: FOR THIS IS THE WILL OF GOD, IN CHRIST JESUS CON-CERNING YOU."

Another Bible illustration of God's dealings through trials, is with the "eagle." When eagles build a next it can weigh up to 2000 pounds. It is built up very high and is lined with very sharp thorns and thistles. Next they line the inside of the nest with moss and animal furs, to make a comfortable place to raise their young. In Deut. 32:11, The Lord says "As the eagle stirreth up her nest, So the Lord, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth on her wings: SO THE LORD." What does that mean?

After the eaglets are hatched and fed, there comes a time when the parent eagles want to teach their eaglets how to fly. Do they do that because they HATE their young? No; it is because they love and wish to protect them.

When the eagles feel it is time to learn to fly, they know they are going to have to change the environment for the eaglets, to get them to cooperate with them. The parent eagles throw all of the moss and furs out of the nest and the eaglets are left sitting on thorns and thistles. They protest loudly, and scurry for the edges of the nest.

When this happens, the parents encourage their young to jump off the nest and try their wings. In most cases they are met with loud complaining that their comfortable nest has been destroyed. Finally, the parents encourage their young to get on their backs and take a ride with the parents.

Once they agree, the parent takes them up VERY high and dumps them. The eaglets screech and tumble head over heels toward the ground. If they fail to put their wings out and learn their purpose, BEFORE they hit the ground, the parent swoops under them and catches them; only to repeat the process all over again.

Are Your Plans Messed Up Right Now? Continued on Page 6

Quotes by

Leonard Ravenhill: Evangelist 1907-1994

- 1. "Fifty years ago you never heard of a divorce in the Christian Church. You never even heard of marriage counselling in the church...We are putting up with sin in the church."
- 2. "I believe every church is either supernatural or superficial. I don't believe there is any middle ground."
- 3. "If I don't believe the word of God, why should you believe it? If we don't believe it, why should the world believe us?"
- 4. I think one of the serious breakdowns in modern evangelism is this: it has offered too much for too little. What we do mostly is offer forgiveness. We need cleansing! There is no true conversion until a man takes up his cross."

Eventually, every eaglet gets it and realizes the purpose of those appendages on their sides, and they begin to realize a whole new concept of living above their circumstances.

Those who have studied eagles for many years tell us NO EAGLET HAS EVER FALLEN TO THEIR DEATH during these trials and stretching lessons. II Peter 3:9 tells us: "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, NOT WILLING THAT ANY SHOULD PERISH, but that all should come to repentance." When trials come, they are for our growth and good!

When the Lord spoke to Ananias, in **Acts 9** and told him to go find SAUL, Ananias resisted because he knew of Saul's reputation. The Lord insisted, and told Ananias the calling He had planned for Saul. **Acts 9:15**, **16**; Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: (WHAT AN INCREDIBLE CALLING: we could all wish for such a call. BUT: vs 16 might cause some of us to pass: "For I will shew him how great things HE MUST SUFFER for My name's sake." Do you

still want it? Realize, the Lord called Stephen to be martyred; Peter, to be hanged upside down on a cross; and I could go on and on. In all of these we must remember: "As for God, HIS WAY IS PERFECT."

When Paul was thrown into prison, for doing the right thing, he refused to complain and chose to praise the Lord, so loudly, all the prisoners heard them. The result was a miracle prison break! When we praise the Lord for our trials, we can get ready for a new chapter and miracle on it's way! If you want to experience miracle in your life, don't just ADD JESUS to your religious experiences, but allow Him to renew your mind, so you may prove that that which is of God is good and perfect; and all sufficient for every need.

Remember this promise: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not to thine own understanding. IN ALL THY WAYS, acknowledge Him and He SHALL direct thy path."

Take your eyes off the turmoil and trials; and focus on the person of Jesus Christ. Kingdoms have come and gone, but Jesus and His kingdom are forever! Let's determine this Christmas, Jesus Christ will be our Magnificent Obcession. Adore Him; Seek His face! Merry Christmas!

AMEN! Drs. Joseph A. and Patricia L. Webb

A Parable of the Reality of Life

If you have ever played chess you know the king is the most powerful piece in the game and supersedes all other parts. The pawn, on the other hand is the least influential, during the game.

It is good to remember, As in life, when the game is over, all the parts go back into the same box.

All influence in the game of life is TEMPORARY, and the players all go back into the same box.



FOR
UNTOUS
ACHILD

ED IS BORN

SONIS GIVEN
SHALL BE
AND CALLED

COUNSELOR MIGHTY
EVERLASTING
FATHER prince of peace
FACE TO GOD highest
and on earth PEACE WHOM HE IS PLEASED
MERRY CHRISTMAS
ISAIAH 9

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