TO ENTER INTO CHRIST'S GLORY
By Duane V. Maxey

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INTRODUCTION TO THIS POTPOURRI

This is another potpourri, the first 11 items of which deal with serious themes, and the last three of which are trivial. To those who may think it strange or inappropriate that I have placed such incongruous items together in the same file, I have no other explanation to offer than that I wished to publish them all at this time. I do hope that the inclusion of the last 3 items will not take away from the serious themes of the other 11. And, I also hope that the last three items shall still provide a little mental recreation for those who need such.

I will only add here that I have left the original numbering within the items of this compilation. Generally, I renumber divisions within items so that 01, 02, 03, etc. are used only to number the main articles and not also divisions within them. -- Duane V. Maxey

01 -- TO ENTER INTO CHRIST'S GLORY

"Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and TO ENTER INTO HIS GLORY?"

Christ "The Forerunner" (Heb. 6:20) ascended from the Mount of Olives "to enter into His glory" nearly 2,000 years ago. However, He was not entering into an unknown state when He did so. For, He was returning to the glory that He had with the Father before the world was ever created: John 17:5 -- "And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was."

But what is it going to take for human beings "to enter into His glory"? A lot more than many imagine. By way of answering that question, I shall next present Chapter 36 of my book, "His Appearing and His Kingdom" -- first written, I think
perhaps 17-18 years ago while I was pastoring in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. -- Duane V. Maxey, September 11, 2006, Chandler, Arizona

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Chapter 36
THE KINGDOM GLORY (MAGNITUDE AND CHANGE)

Ps. 138:5 ...GREAT is the GLORY of the LORD.

Matt. 24:30 ..they shall see the Son of man coming.. with power and GREAT GLORY.

Heb. 7:12 ..there is made of necessity A CHANGE..

2 Cor. 3:18 ..we all..beholding..THE GLORY of the Lord, are CHANGED into the same image from glory to glory..

Philip. 3:21 Who shall CHANGE our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto HIS GLORIOUS BODY..

Heb. 1:10,12 And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of THE EARTH; AND THE HEAVENS are the works of thine hands..as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they SHALL BE CHANGED..

Wherever the presence of Christ's glory comes, "there is made of necessity a change." At His first coming, it was necessary to change both the priesthood and the Law: Heb. 7:12 "For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law." While spiritually beholding the glory of the Lord, there is made of necessity a change in believer's hearts: 2 Cor. 3:18 "But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." When Jesus "manifested forth His glory" at the wedding in Cana He changed the water into wine. It was the glory of God that changed Christ's mortal body into "His glorious body": Rom. 6:4 "Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father."

Those who have been given "the light of the knowledge of the glory of God" should best estimate the magnitude of Christ's glory, and they should better understand the necessity of change occurring whenever His glory is manifested. 2 Cor. 4:6 However, the writer is convinced that many who have a spiritual knowledge of Christ's glory still under-estimate the magnitude of Christ's second-coming glory and do not rightly understand the changes which will become an immediate necessity when that glory is revealed.

The Great Magnitude Of Christ's Second-Coming Glory
Four times the scriptures mention the greatness of Christ's glory, and the last three are all in reference to that glory which shall be manifested at His return: Ps. 138:5; Matt. 24:30; Mark 13:26-"And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with GREAT power and GLORY." Luke 21:27-"And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and GREAT GLORY." We should not under-estimate THE EXCEEDING MAGNITUDE of that manifestation:

It will be both awesome and overpowering. It will cover the heavens around the entire world:

Hab. 3:3 God came..His glory covered the heavens.

It will strike terror in the hearts of those who are unprepared to meet Him:

Luke 2:9 ..the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

Rev. 6:15-16 ..men..hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks..And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb!

The wicked around the world will be pushed into destruction by its Almighty force:

Deut. 33:17 His glory is like..the horns of unicorns: with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth..

Christ is this very moment "dwelling in the Light which no man can approach unto; Whom no man hath seen, nor can see.." He is "the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His Person." 1 Tim. 6:16; Heb. 1:3 FLESH AND BLOOD CANNOT ENDURE, OR CONTINUE TO LIVE, UNDER THE FULL MANIFESTATION OF CHRIST'S GLORY.

Because of this, Moses was not allowed to see the Lord's face: "And he said, I beseech thee, show me thy glory...And He said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live...thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen." Ex. 33:18,20,23

Heretofore, all manifestations of Christ's glory have been limited because of the inability of man's flesh to endure the full, unrestrained brilliance of that glory. Even after limited manifestations of Christ's glory to him, "the children of Israel could not steadfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance." 1 Cor. 3:7 Among those who are unprepared to meet Him, then, "who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth" in all of His omnipotent, overwhelming radiance? Mal 3:2 None!
Even partial manifestations of Christ's glory have prevented the approach of flesh and blood and prostrated those who came into that presence: Ex. 40:35-"And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because...the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. 1 Ki. 8:11-"So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD." 2 Chr. 5:14-"So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God." 2 Chr. 7:2-"And the priests could not enter into the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD had filled the LORD'S house."

Saul of Tarsus was both prostrated and blinded by the magnitude and brilliance of Christ's glory on the Damascus road: Acts 26:13,14 "At midday, O king, I saw in the way a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun, shining round about me and them which journeyed with me. And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?" Acts 22:11 "And when I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of them that were with me, I came into Damascus."

Later, when Paul mentioned to the Corinthians the "eternal weight of glory," and to the Colossians the "glorious power" of Christ, he knew well of that which he wrote. He had been utterly prostrated and humbled into the dust by that "weight of glory" and "glorious power". 2 Cor. 4:17; Col. 1:11

Christ's Glory Will Slay The Wicked At His Appearing

Should not many cease to under-estimate the magnitude and power of Christ's second-coming glory? Wicked men will not be simply subdued by Christ's glory. They will be slain by His glory!: "And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming." 2 Thess. 2:8

All of the wicked will be felled and consumed by the fiery radiance of Him Who is "the brightness" of God's glory: "For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many." Isa. 66:16 "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch." Mal. 4:1

Flesh And Blood Residents In Christ's Glory Impossible

Christ's glory will make it utterly impossible for wicked flesh and blood to even survive His coming, let alone exist with Him in on this earth in a supposed servile surrender for a thousand years. Indeed, were Christ to sit upon a throne in the earthly Jerusalem in all of the radiance of "His glorious body," no flesh and blood would even be able to look upon Him and still live. This fact eliminates the
possibility of an earthly Messianic reign which is supposed to contain both glorified and flesh and blood servants of Christ.

At Christ's return, even the glorified saints "shall shine as the brightness of the firmament" and "as the stars"! Beloved, there are stars in our universe countless numbers of times greater than our sun. Yet scientists are now concerned about too much radiation reaching the earth through an opening in the shielding ozone layer above our planet. How, then, would the strongest flesh and blood person be able to endure the radiance of the smallest of Christ's glorified saints, not to mention the blazing splendor of Him Who is "the Sun of Righteousness"?!

Dan. 12:3; Mal. 4:2

While the writer realizes that all things are possible with God, He asserts that the true, Biblical description of the population of the Messianic kingdom does not include a mixture of glorified beings and flesh and blood beings. However, this conclusion is not based upon the perceived incongruity, incompatibility, and impossibility of such a mixture, but is based rather upon the preponderance and weight of scriptural evidence which shows that such an interpretation of the kingdom is mistaken.

The Great Changes Made By Christ's Second-Coming Glory

We should understand that "of necessity" great changes will be wrought by His glory when Christ appears:

Our Bodies Will Be Changed

The bodies of Christians will be changed. Because the natural bodies of God's saints could not endure the glory of His kingdom, all will receive a new, glorified, spiritual body at His appearing:

1 Cor. 15:44,50-52 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. (50) Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. (51) Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, (52) In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

Philip. 3:20-21 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: (21) Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.
The bodies of all will be changed when Christ appears. However, it will be "to every seed his own body." Those who are "wheat" will be given bodies like Christ's, but those who are "some other grain" will be given damnation bodies:

1 Cor. 15:37-38 And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: (38) But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.

The Universe Will Be Changed

Heb. 1:6,10-12 And again, when he bringeth in (or, when He bringeth in again) the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him. (10) And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands: (11) They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; (12) And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.

When will this universal change occur? At the time "again, when he bringeth in the Firstbegotten into the world," or when God "brings again" His Son into the world -- in other words, at Christ's second coming. This too negates the possibility of the Messianic kingdom being on this present earth. Christ will utterly change the universe through His glory when He comes again. The cosmic chaos and consumption of this present universe at the time of Christ's second coming will precede the time when He shall reign "gloriously" in the new heaven and new earth:

Isa. 24:23 Then the moon shall be confounded, and the sun ashamed, when the LORD of hosts shall reign in mount Zion, and in Jerusalem, and before his ancients gloriously.

This writer asserts that all beings and all things will be changed and brought into their eternal state at the commencement of Jesus' Messianic reign with His saints. Jesus said that "the throne of His glory" would be "in the regeneration," or new creation. Matt. 19:28 "Having the glory of God" is a radiant honour which no city on this earth could contain. Christ will reign on "the throne of His glory" in the City which shall have that glory, New Jerusalem. Rev. 21:11 The prophecy of Psalm 87:3 shall have its fulfillment: "Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. Selah." There too, shall come bright realization of Isa. 60:1-2: "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee."

Those who were impenitently earthy, sensual, and devilish shall forever dwell outside of "the regeneration" in the "gross darkness" of eternal damnation while the glory of the Lord is forever seen upon the New Jerusalem.
The prospect of God's glory is upward, and not gravitated to this earth. 1 Tim. 3:16 tells us that Christ was "received up into glory." Paul wrote that "the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another." 1 Cor. 15:40 Conditionally, the devil offered Jesus "all the kingdoms of this world, and the glory of them." Matt. 4:8 Christ wasn't interested in either the condition or position of the glory satan offered Him. Jesus' kingdom is not now, nor ever shall be, of this world. The glory of Christ's kingdom is celestial, not terrestrial. Therefore, this writer asserts that the Messianic kingdom will be in the spiritually elevated "world to come" where heaven and earth will be united into one eternal, glorious union and kingdom.

In Isa. 60:13 we read: "I will make the place of my feet glorious." Even the ground of Jesus' Messianic Kingdom will be glorified. In that changed and glorious new heaven and new earth realm, the following prayer of Christ will be answered: "Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory." John 17:24

In Conclusion

We should not under-estimate the GREAT MAGNITUDE of Christ's second-coming GLORY.

We should understand the GREAT CHANGES which shall occur when the zenith of that immeasurable brilliance shines forth.

The Psalmist wrote: "O Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a flock; Thou that dwellest between the cherubims, shine forth." Ps. 80:1 When He does shine forth: "Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear." Matt. 13:43

"In that day shall the LORD of hosts be for a crown of glory, and for a diadem of beauty, unto the residue of his people, And for a spirit of judgment to him that sitteth in judgment." Isa. 28:5-6 The chaff will all be driven away, and the children will rejoice in Jesus' beauty and glory. For those who have suffered and labored long, "His rest shall be glorious." Isa. 11:10 Also, we won't lack company in glory. Besides the unmerited, yet glorious fellowship with the Father and the Son in the Holy Ghost, the saints of all ages will be there: "And out of them shall proceed thanksgiving and the voice of them that make merry..and they shall not be few; I will also glorify them, and they shall not be small." Jer. 30:19 "What a day, glorious day, that will be!" Hallelujah!

Beloved, God has from the beginning intended something far better for us than any kingdom or city on this earth could contain: "A glorious high throne from the beginning is the place of our sanctuary." Jer. 17:12 In the New Jerusalem, Zech. 2:5 shall also be fulfilled: "For I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her." "And the city had no need of the
sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof." Rev. 21:23

Yes, Christ's place for His kingdom will be "in the regeneration." There it shall be known: "Glory and honour are in his presence; strength and gladness are in his place." 1 Chr. 16:27 Christ will "Let the saints be joyful in glory" forever. Ps. 149:5

Is not the magnitude of Christ's coming glory too often under-estimated? Do we really understand the awesome, and yet marvelous, changes which shall occur when "the glory of the LORD shall be revealed."? Isa. 40:5 Perhaps in this regard, Paul's prayer for the Ephesian Church would be fitting for us all:

Eph. 1:15-18 Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints, (16) Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; (17) That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: (18) The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints.

I conclude with the benediction of Jude 24-25: Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, (25) To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and for ever. Amen.

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02 -- 22 KINGDOM FULFILLMENTS SEEN IN REVELATION 21-22

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INTRODUCTION

Except for some alterations, subtractions, and additions, the material in this file is largely the same as that in Chapter 23 of my book, "His Appearing and His Kingdom" (hdm0124). Nevertheless, I have elected to once again set forth the truths of that chapter herewith, hoping that some who have not yet read the larger publication will profit from reading this altered portion thereof. I have added a Table of Contents which will make it easier to study particular parts of the file.

It is asserted by this writer that in Old Testament Messianic prophecy we often find prophetic pictures, couched in "this-earthly" language, of a Messianic Reign which shall take place in the Eternal State, instead of in an extension of time following Christ's Return, commonly called The Millennium. I challenge the reader to "search the Scriptures, whether these things are so" (Acts 17:11), but I shall not debate the subject with any. On these matters, "Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind" (Romans 14:5), but arguing about prophetic interpretation should be avoided. "How forcible are right words! but what doth your arguing reprove?" (Job 6:25).

Does the Bible anywhere show the Eternal State fulfillment of Messianic prophecies which seem to describe a Messianic reign on this present earth? The answer is a definite, Yes. Repeatedly, we find described in Revelation chapters 21 and 22 the fulfillment of Old Testament, Messianic prophecies which some interpret to take place during a millennium in this world after Christ's Return. But clearly, the things mentioned in Revelation 21 and 22 take place in the Eternal State.

Below is a comparison of Old Testament prophetic scriptures with their corresponding scriptures found in Revelation 21 and 22. I maintain that the striking similarity between the things described in these Old Testament portions of scripture and the things described in Revelation 21 and 22 should convince us that the Messianic kingdom will take place in the Eternal State, and not during a
supposed thousand-year extension of time after Christ's Second Coming. Bear in mind when reading the following comparisons that often in the Old Testament the particular thing mentioned is in figurative language, while in Revelation 21 and 22 it is mentioned in a very straight-forward manner.

ALSO PLEASE NOTE that I have set forth: (a) that which is prophesied in the Old Testament to be in the Messianic Age -- Compared with -- (b) its corresponding fulfillment shown clearly to be in the Eternal State.

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01 -- NEW HEAVENS AND NEW EARTH, FORMER THINGS PASSED AWAY

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Isa. 65:16-17 "...because the former troubles are forgotten, and because they are hid from mine eyes. For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind."

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 21:1,4 "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away...the former things are passed away."

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02 -- ETERNAL BLISS, WITH NO SORROW OR TEARS

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Isa. 65:18-19 But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying."

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 21:4 "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.. and there shall be no more..sorrow, nor crying.."

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03 -- NOTHING HURTFUL OR PAINFUL

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Isa. 65:25 "The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock; and...They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the Lord."

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 21:4 ".neither shall there be any more pain.."

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04 -- LONG LIFE, NO DEATH

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Isa. 65:22 "..for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 21:4 "..and there shall be no more death."

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05 -- NO MORE CURSE, BUT INSTEAD BLESSING

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Isa. 65:23 "They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the Lord."

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 22:3 "And there shall be no more curse."

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06 -- JERUSALEM THE PROMINENT CITY, HONORED BY NATIONS

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Micah 4:1-2 "But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord.. and we will walk in His paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. (see also Isa. 2:2-3)

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 21:2,10, 24, 26 "And I John saw the Holy City, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven.. And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great City, The Holy Jerusalem.. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it.. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it."

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07 -- JERUSALEM BECOME THE DOMINANT CITY

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Micah 4:8 "And thou, O tower of the flock, the strong hold of the daughter of Zion, unto thee shall it come, even the first dominion; the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem. Isa. 60:11-12 Therefore thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; that men may bring unto thee the forces of the Gentiles, and that their kings may be
brought. For the nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted."

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 21:24, 26 "..and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it."

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08 -- JERUSALEM'S GATES BE CONTINUALLY OPEN

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Isa. 60:11 "Therefore thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; that men may bring unto thee the forces of the Gentiles, and that their kings may be brought."

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 21:25-26 "And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day.. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it."

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09 -- JERUSALEM'S DIMENSIONS BE FOURSQUARE

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Ezek. 48:20 "..ye shall offer the holy oblation foursquare, with the possession of the city."

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 21:16 "And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth..The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal."

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10 -- JERUSALEM'S WALL FOUNDATIONS GARNISHED WITH PRECIOUS STONES

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Isa. 54:11-12 "..I will lay thy stones with fair colours, and lay thy foundations with sapphires. And I will make thy windows of agates, and thy gates of carbuncles, and all thy borders of pleasant stones."

Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 21:19 "And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones."

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11 -- JERUSALEM'S GATES NAMED AFTER THE 12 TRIBES OF ISRAEL
Ezek. 48:31 "And the gates of the city shall be after the names of the tribes of Israel."

Rev. 21:12 "...twelve gates... and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel.'

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12 -- JERUSALEM DIVINELY LIGHTED

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Isa. 60:1-3 "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising."

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 21:23-24 "And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it."

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13 -- JERUSALEM EXPERIENCE ENDLESS DAY

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Isa. 60:19-20 "The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the Lord shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory. Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw itself: for the Lord shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended."

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 22:5 "And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever."

14 -- JERUSALEM ADORNED AS A BRIDE

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Isa. 52:1 "..put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city."

(b) Shown to be in The Eternal State: Rev. 21:2 "And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."

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15 -- JERUSALEM PURE AND HOLY

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Isa. 52:1 "..put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean." Zech. 14:20-21 "In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD; and the pots in the Lord's house shall be like the bowls before the altar. Yea, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the Lord of hosts.. and in that day there shall be no more the Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts." Isa. 60:21 "Thy people also shall be all righteous.. that I may be glorified."

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 21:27 "And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie.." 2 Pet. 3:13 "Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness."

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16 -- ETERNAL DAMNATION TO THOSE WITHOUT THE CITY

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Isa. 66:22, 24 "For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain.. And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcases of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh."

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 22:15, 8 "For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."

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17 -- THE TABERNACLE OF GOD WITH MEN

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Ezek. 37:27 "My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 21:3, 22 "And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with
them, and be their God. And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it."

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18 -- THE WATER OF LIFE AND TREE OF LIFE

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Ezek. 47:1, 9,12 "Afterward he brought me again unto the door of the house; and, behold, waters issued out from under the threshold of the house eastward. And it shall come to pass, that every thing that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live. and every thing shall live whither the river cometh. And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed: it shall bring forth new fruit according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary: and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine. Zech. 14:8,11 "And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem. And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited."

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 22:1-2 "And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations."

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19 -- JERUSALEM THE PLACE OF GOD'S THRONE

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Jer. 3:17 "At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the Lord; and all the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name of the Lord, to Jerusalem."

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 22:3 "..the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it."

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20 -- THE ETERNAL PRESENCE OF CHRIST

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Ezek. 48:35 "It was round about eighteen thousand measures: and the name of the city from that day shall be, The Lord is there."
(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 22:3 "..the Lamb shall be in it.."

* * *

21 -- JESUS REIGNING FOREVER

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Isa. 9:7 "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever."

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 22:3,5 "And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him.. (5) ..for ever and ever."

* * *

22 -- JERUSALEM FILLED WITH GOD'S GLORY

(a) Prophesied to be in The Messianic Age: Ps. 87:3 "Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God." Isa. 60:13 "..I will make the place of my feet glorious."

(b) Shown to be fulfilled in The Eternal State: Rev. 21:10-11 "And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal."

* * *

IN CONCLUSION

Surely all of these marvelous things shall have their fulfillment, not in the Jerusalem which now is, nor during an extended millennium of time after Christ's Return, but rather in the New Jerusalem of the Eternal State. Beloved, let us not look for the realization of Messianic Kingdom promises within the feeble framework of time and matter here below, but rather in the "city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God" (Hebrews 11:10).

Hebrews 12:18, 22 tells us: "For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched.. But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the City of the Living God, the Heavenly Jerusalem."
That which is touchable and visible often appeals more to the human mind than that which is spiritual and invisible, but should not the above quotations from Hebrews reveal to us that our hope is not to come to the touchable Jerusalem on this earth, but rather our hope and purpose should be to enter in through the gates into "The Heavenly Jerusalem." Nowhere in the Bible is the Christian pointed to this present earth as the location where God's promises shall be fulfilled to Christ's Church. Why, then, after the return of Christ, should God's people expect to re-inhabit, for even a thousand years, this old earth and the Jerusalem which now is?

This writer asserts that, along with numerous other scriptures, the comparisons of Scripture with Scripture presented in this article should convince us that the Jesus' Messianic Reign will take place in the Eternal State within the New Heaven, the New Earth, and the New Jerusalem.

Further, I suggest that since Revelation 21 and 22 speak primarily of the bliss which Christ will share with His Church, we should also be able to see from the comparisons presented in this chapter that the Messianic Kingdom will not be a fulfillment of "this-earthly" promises to flesh and blood Israel, but will instead be a fulfillment of "the world to come" promises to the entire, spiritual "Israel of God," Christ's Church.

At His return, Christ will shake down, utterly consume, and remove from His sight all material things. I maintain that this "consumption" will eliminate the possibility of a Messianic reign on this earth.

Hebrews 12:26-29 "..now He hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire."

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03 -- GOD'S HOLY LAND AND HOLY CITY

And the Lord shall inherit Judah his portion in the HOLY LAND, and shall choose JERUSALEM again" (Zechariah 2:12).

Only once in the KJV do we find the words "Holy Land," a term that has for centuries been used to designate Palestine, the ancient land of earthly Israel. But, so much has this name been exclusively associated with that earthly land in the Middle East that think it likely that it has scarcely, if ever, been used to identify God's Heavenly, Holy Land -- which latter Holy Land, I assert, is where prophetic verses like that of Zechariah 2:12 shall have their primary and fullest fulfillment.
At first blush, it may seem that Zechariah 2:12 must have its prophetic fulfillment primarily to Earthly Israel, in Earthly Palestine, and the Earthly Jerusalem. And, it is true that a remnant of Earthly Israel shall be saved in that "Holy Land" on the Day of the Lord, directly before the Resurrection and Rapture of the Church. But, that remnant will then be raptured (with the rest of the Church, a part of which they have become) to meet the Lord in the air, and they shall not return to live a thousand years in the Earthly, Holy Land and Earthly Jerusalem, but shall next be part of the glorified population that shall inhabit the Heavenly, Holy Land and Holy City above.

There are many reasons why we should not take the statement that "the Lord shall... choose Jerusalem again" to mean that Christ shall choose to reign in this world in the earthly Jerusalem. Let me delineate a few of them.

(1) As God, Christ shall never dwell nor minister, in a temple "made with hands." In proof of this assertion, please consider the following scriptures:

Acts 7:48-49 "Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands; as saith the prophet, Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool: what house will ye build me? saith the Lord: or what is the place of my rest?" In addition to the clear statement that Christ, "the most High," does not dwell in temples made with hands, we see that fact that God's Word here declares that "Heaven" is the place of Christ's "Throne" while "Earth" is but His "Footstool". And where do kings sit when they reign? -- on their THRONE? or on their FOOTSTOOL? Obviously, even earthly kings do not sit on their Footstool to reign, but rather on their Throne! How much more then shall Christ, the KING of kings, SIT UPON HIS HEAVENLY THRONE TO REIGN, and never upon His earthly footstool!

Acts 17:24-25 "God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that He is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though He needed any thing, seeing He giveth to all life, and breath, and all things." Christ made the world and all things. He cannot be worshipped "with men's hands" or with anything made by men's hands. He does not need, nor shall he accept as his place of worship, a temple made by hands -- especially a temple made by hands that has been occupied by the anti-Christ!!!

Who is it that presumes to think that the impeccable, spotlessly pure Christ, Who made all things, is going to sit in a renovated man-made temple that was once occupied by the vile, Man of Sin "who oppose[d] and exalte[d] himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God [sat] in the temple of God, [falsely] shewing himself that he [wa]s God" (2 Thessalonians 2:4)? Away with such a thought. Yes, the Jewish temple shall indeed be rebuilt "in troublous times" (Daniel 9:25), but Christ is not going to sit in it. There isn't enough cleansing compound on earth to purify that temple, defiled by the Man of Sin, so as to fit it for the Perfect Purity of Christ, the Great High Priest!!!
Hebrews 9:8-11 tells us that "the first tabernacle" was only "a figure" of the "Greater and more perfect Tabernacle" (or Temple) in heaven, "But Christ being come an High Priest of good things to come, by A GREATER AND MORE PERFECT TABERNACLE, not made with hands, that is to say, NOT OF THIS BUILDING."

Hebrews 9:24 goes on to tell us that "Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us." At His First Coming, Christ came as Prophet; today He sits as Priest, pleading and interceding with God the Father; but in the great Tomorrow He shall return as neither Prophet nor Priest, but as KING of kings! -- His Priesthood forever ended! They do greatly err who suppose that Christ's Priesthood shall continue -- after His Return, and in an earthly tabernacle!!! Away with such totally unscriptural notions!

(2) Earthly Jerusalem has been forever cast out as God's City! In Galatians 4:24-31, the apostle Paul likens Sarah to the Heavenly Jerusalem and her son Isaac to spiritual Israel (those born of the Spirit). Additionally, he likens Hagar and her son Ishmael to the Earthly Jerusalem and earthly, flesh and blood Israel (those not born again). Then, HE MAKES THE APPLICATION in Galatians 4:30 -- "Nevertheless what saith the scripture? CAST OUT THE BONDWOMAN AND HER SON: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman."

Do you get it? "Cast out Earthly Jerusalem and Earthly Israel!" -- they were a typical city and typical people, who, while Salvation in the Person of Christ came by them, were foreshadows of the Heavenly Jerusalem and Spiritual Israel. Dear Heart, the only way anyone can be saved and cleansed is by repentance, consecration, and faith in the Blood of Christ. And, this is the way the remnant of earthly Israel shall be saved and sanctified on the Day of the Lord. But earthly Jerusalem and earthly Israel, having been forever cast out as God's City and God's People, that saved remnant shall next dwell in the Heavenly Jerusalem forever among the Spiritual "Israel of God."

(3) Many of the prophecies that premillennial interpreters ascribe to a supposed, coming, earthly, golden age shall actually have their fulfillment in the New Heaven and New Earth.

Consider the following prophetic picture in Ezekiel that premillennialists say will take place in the supposed millennium on earth after Christ's Return:

"So he measured the court, an hundred cubits long, and an hundred cubits broad, FOURSQUARE; and the altar that was before the house... All the oblation shall be five and twenty thousand by five and twenty thousand: ye shall offer the holy oblation FOURSQUARE, with the possession of THE CITY" (Ezekiel 40:47; 48:20).
But where is it that the Bible shows that the prophecy of this FOURSQUARE CITY shall actually occur? Read Revelation 21:16 and we have the answer: "And THE CITY LIETH FOURSQUARE, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal." What City is spoken of here? Obviously, not the earthly Jerusalem, but the Heavenly Jerusalem!

(4) There is only ONE TRULY HOLY CITY! -- and that is The Heavenly Jerusalem, which is the Lamb's Bride. It is THIS CITY, THIS BRIDE, that Christ has chosen -- not an earthly city or earthly bride!

Isaiah 52:1 sounds forth prophetically, "Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; PUT ON THY BEAUTIFUL GARMENTS, O JERUSALEM, THE HOLY CITY: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean."

What Jerusalem is it that shall experience the fulfillment of this? Read Revelation 21:2 and you will have the answer: "And I John saw THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared AS A BRIDE ADORNED FOR HER HUSBAND."

These and many other scriptures make it plain that the statement that "the Lord shall... choose Jerusalem again" should not be taken to mean that Christ shall choose to reign in this world in the earthly Jerusalem.

There are also many scriptures to prove that GOD'S HOLY LAND is not the "Holy Land" in the Middle East, but that "Land that is fairer than day" in Heaven.

In Acts 7:2-5, just before his martyrdom, Stephen retold the story of God's call to Abraham out of Mesopotamia: "Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and come into the land which I shall shew thee." And, in addressing those who were about to stone him, Stephen said of Abraham: "he removed him into this land, wherein ye now dwell" -- an obvious reference to Canaan, or the earthly, holy land. Yet, Stephen went on to say that God gave Abraham "none inheritance in it, no, not so much as to set his foot on.."" First, God told Abraham that his inheritance would be in "the land which I shall shew thee." Then, in the earthly, holy land, God gave him "none inheritance in it."

Wait a minute! If God showed Abraham that earthly Canaan was to be his inheritance, would not Abraham have been greatly disappointed not to have inherited enough land in it upon which to set his foot!!?? Indeed, Abraham would have been disappointed if God had showed him that the earthly, holy land was to be his inheritance. What land, then, was it that God showed Abraham he would inherit?
IT WAS THE HEAVENLY CANAAN -- THE HEAVENLY, HOLY LAND. Abraham, like Isaiah, caught sight of a land that is not on this earth: Isaiah 33:17 "Thine eyes shall see the King in his beauty: they shall BEHOLD THE LAND THAT IS VERY FAR OFF."

Abraham saw that earthly Canaan only typified the Heavenly, Holy Land. Therefore, "By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, AS IN A STRANGE COUNTRY, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a City which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." (Hebrews 11:9-10).

I assert that when God's Word says "the Lord shall inherit JUDAH His portion in the HOLY LAND, and shall choose JERUSALEM again," it is telling us that Christ shall inherit spiritual Judah, His portion (spiritual Jews -- "For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly.. But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly.. in the SPIRIT..." -- Rom. 2:28-29). It is THIS that is "the riches of the glory of HIS INHERITANCE IN THE SAINTS" (Eph. 1:18), and not an inheritance of the Lord in flesh and blood Judah.

Further, I declare that "the Holy Land" in which Christ shall have "His inheritance in the saints" -- and the saints in Him -- shall be the Heavenly, Holy Land. And, finally, I assert that when Christ "chooses Jerusalem again," this time, it is going to be the true, Heavenly Jerusalem that is His Bride.

May I paint the picture of that Eternal Choosing "in the day of His espousals" (Song of Solomon 3:11) when the Greater than Solomon takes His Bride.

"Wilt thou, Christ, have this Woman (the Church) to be thy Bride?"

"I WILL!"

"Wilt thou, the Church, have this Man (the God-Man, Christ Jesus) to be thy Husband?"

"I WILL!"

Then, with eternal "gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought: they shall enter into the King's palace" (Psalm 45:15) forever and ever -- the King and His Bride!

Dear Heart, there is a REASON why the saints of God NEVER DREAM of living another thousand years on this earth in a temporarily patched-up state. There is a reason why when they sing about and anticipate their future after Christ's Return they give no thought at all about "where on earth" they are going to live for another thousand years. It is BECAUSE they look for the same City and Land for which Abraham looked -- THE HEAVENLY, HOLY LAND AND THE NEW JERUSALEM.
Listen to the living and dying testimonies of a million saints and they will declare THIS! Hear the lyrics of thousands of Christian songs and they will declare THIS! Numbers of premillennialist Christians accept mentally that teaching, but their hearts tells them otherwise. While they profess to believe that doctrine, their heart says a hearty, heart-felt AMEN to such as the following:

I'm kind of homesick for a country
To which I've never been before;
No sad good-byes will there be spoken,
For time won't matter anymore!

Beulah Land, I'm longing for you,
And someday on thee I'll stand;
There my Home shall be eternal,
Beulah Land, sweet Beulah Land!

I'm looking now across the river,
To where my faith shall end in sight;
There's just a few more days to labor,
Then I will take my Heavenly flight!

Beulah Land, I'm longing for you,
And someday on thee I'll stand;
There my Home shall be eternal,
Beulah Land, sweet Beulah Land.

Believe your heart, saint of God. Believe your heart!

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04 -- HEAVEN'S SAINTS SHALL BE VERY BUSY

"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them" (Revelation 14:13).

Twice recently, devout servants of Christ questioned me on the subject of whether the glorified saints in Heaven shall be forever at rest doing little or nothing, or be engaged in activity and work.

At first blush, Revelation 14:13 might suggest to some that Heaven is going to be a place of eternal rest for the glorified saints, all of their works having been finished while on earth, with nothing remaining to do in Heaven but sit back and blissfully enjoy the reward of that eternal rest. This is not what God's Word teaches.
The thought of the song, "When I Take My Vacation In Heaven," may appeal to some, but to others the very prospect of a Do-Nothing Heaven would probably lessen the joy of its anticipation considerably. On one occasion, when Bishop Asbury had to retire a dear old horse he had ridden for a long while across many, many miles, as the bishop rode out the lane beside the pasture on another mount, his old horse trotted along the fence line nickering -- as if to say, "Why are you leaving me behind? I want to go with you!" That old horse wanted to continue his labor as the servant of Bishop Asbury, carrying him on his way. Often, old "work-horses" don't enjoy being "put out to pasture." They want to keep at it, and these days older retirees often take menial jobs just to escape the boredom of having nothing to do.

It IS true that Heaven will not have any hyper-active, finger-strumming, nervously foot-tapping, saints who will distract others with their incessant flitting about from one place to another, being unable to be quiet, sit down, sit still, and be at rest! But on the other hand, no spiritually perceptive and intelligent student of the Bible would go so far as to paint the picture of heaven like cartoonists do: as a place where victorious saints sit upon white clouds, doing nothing but strumming on their harps.

Still, among the most devout Christians, Heaven is often spoken of as the place where the saints shall meet and dwell with Christ, where they shall be reunited with loved ones, where they shall attend the Coronation of Christ, where they shall feast at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, where they shall receive their reward, where they shall recall and "tell the story how they've overcome," where they shall drink of the water of Life, eat of the Tree of Life, and live forever, where they shall walk on streets of gold, and where they shall everlastingly rejoice and praise the Redeemer -- all of this, with little or no thought about WHAT ELSE they shall, or shall not, be doing there.

With this little article, I shall attempt to show the reader, Scripturally, that Heaven shall be much more than such a place of Eternal Rest and Eternal Jubilee. And, I shall begin by presenting what I think is the most straight-forward, proof-positive in the Bible that "Heaven's Saints Shall Be Very Busy":

Revelation 22:3: -- "And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and HIS SERVANTS SHALL SERVE HIM."

Here we see that THE SERVICE OF GOD'S PEOPLE SHALL NOT END WITH THE COMPLETION OF THEIR SERVICE TO CHRIST ON THIS EARTH.

Servants of a king do not sit around doing nothing! Neither shall the glorified servants of Christ, the King of kings, sit around doing nothing more than drinking the Water of Life, eating from the Tree of Life, singing and shouting the praises of Christ, while enjoying the company of the Trinity, the Holy Angels, and the rest of the victorious saints.
SERVANTS DO THINGS! THEY SERVE BY ACTIVE LABOR! You will recall the account in the New Testament of the Centurion who besought Jesus to heal his servant, but had faith to believe that Jesus need only speak the word for that healing to be accomplished. He said to Christ in Matthew 8:9 -- "For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and TO MY SERVANT, DO THIS, AND HE DOETH IT."

Servants are always DOERS OF LABOR, and when they cease to DO, they cease to BE servants. Thus, when Revelation 22:3 says that "His servants shall serve Him," it should be clear to any thinking student of the Word that Heaven's saints shall be very busy, DOING what Christ bids them do -- in a very active, eternally ongoing service for Christ.

Thus, when we read Revelation 14:13, and verses like the two following Scriptures, we must not take Heaven to be a place simply to sit down in the Kingdom, to dwell forever with Christ, to behold the beauty of Christ, and to inquire in His temple: Luke 13:29 -- "And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God." Psalm 27:4 -- One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple." It shall be all of these things, but much more -- including laboring for Him in an endless service.

Consider next the following verse: John 12:26 -- "If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour." It is clear from this verse that the glorified servant of Christ shall be eternally with Christ and greatly honored by the Father. It should be equally clear that dwelling with Christ and honor from God the father does not eliminate the status of being eternally "a servant" -- and to be eternally a servant one must eternally serve, and actively do things for the Master.

In this same light, we read in Luke 11:2 "And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. THY WILL BE DONE, AS IN HEAVEN, SO IN EARTH." Here we see the will of God is to be DONE, not simply being enjoyed, on earth or in heaven. God's will is even now being DONE in Heaven, and it shall be forever DONE in Heaven by its occupants -- the word "DONE" demanding activity, not simply an inactive acquiescence.

Along this same line of truth, consider Hebrews 13:21 -- "MAKE YOU PERFECT in every good work TO DO HIS WILL, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory FOR EVER AND EVER. Amen." Notice here that God PERFECTS His servants TO DO HIS WILL -- not simply to be
perfect for the sake of being perfect without doing anything. By way of illustration, no auto manufacturer seeks to make his vehicles mechanically perfect so that they can sit in show-rooms on display, but rather, he seeks to make them perfect so they shall well serve their owners, carry them down the road and get places to get things done. It is absolutely impossible to imagine that God would make his glorified saints "perfect" to do nothing! Even the earthly perfection of the saints is TO DO HIS WILL. How much more, then, shall the glorified perfection of the saints be a perfection TO DO HIS WILL... IN HEAVEN, FOR EVER AND EVER."

Another Scripture wherein I can see indirectly the fact of Christ's Heavenly servants being very busy is Matthew 22:30 -- "For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are AS THE ANGELS of God in heaven." One need only peruse the instances where God's angels are mentioned in the Bible to see that THEY ARE HIS VERY BUSY SERVANTS! The saints in glory will be "AS THE ANGELS" in more ways than MARITALLY; they shall also be AS THE ANGELS BUSILY!

I recently published a sermon on the following text that was applied to Christian activity in THIS life. I verily believe that it also has an Heavenly and Eternal application -- John 10:9 "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, HE SHALL be saved, and shall GO IN AND OUT, and find pasture." Again, the saints will not simply sit down in their heavenly houses in the Holy City and reminisce with others about "how they've overcome." Nay! the saints shall busily "GO IN AND OUT" as eternally active servants of Christ. With eternal rest within, and a body that cannot tire, it will be no problem for Christ's Heavenly servants to "be at rest" even while they are GOING IN AND OUT in labors for the Master in Heaven. No doubt there SHALL BE occasions of sitting down -- to behold the beauty of the Lord, to congregate for praise, to worship and adore the King, to feast at His table, and to learn at His feet. But, then it shall be back to the labor of going in and out doing His business -- whatever that is.

Let me next present a portion of Scripture from Isaiah chapter 65:17-23, the latter part of which premillennialists say shall be fulfilled in an extension of time after Christ's Return. I assert that all of this shall be fulfilled in the Eternal Regeneration, viz., in Heaven, and you will note that I have CAPITALIZED some of the text that speaks of the labor of Christ's servants in Heaven:

"For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying.. And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their
hands. THEY SHALL NOT LABOUR IN VAIN, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the Lord, and their offspring with them."

While some of the language in the above Scripture is figurative, it shall all have a literal and eternal fulfillment.

The following verses tell us part of what the first 11 apostles with the 12th apostle Paul shall be doing in Heaven:

Matthew 19:28 -- "And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

Luke 22:29-30 -- "And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; that ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

Surely that judging of the glorified, twelve tribes of Spiritual Israel in Heaven shall include more than the twelve apostles sitting upon twelve thrones issuing commands, and most certainly the twelve tribes over whom they shall rule will be actively laboring under them as the servants of Christ.

But WHAT ALL, exactly, shall the servants of Christ be doing in Heaven besides the few things mentioned in the Bible? There is a veil drawn over this subject, and THAT, nobody in this world knows. Hereafter the glorified saints shall know -- probably one thing at a time. In John 2:5 we read how Jesus' "mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it." I think that probably just as in this life, Christ's servants in Heaven shall receive their instructions incrementally -- one thing after the other. whatsoever He says, Christ's Heavenly servants shall do, and do joyfully, successfully, and quite perfectly, if not absolutely perfectly.

I can tell you one thing God's servants will NOT be doing in Heaven -- and that is FIGHTING: " John 18:36 -- "Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight."

There has been, and ever shall be, only one war in Heaven, and the devil and his hosts lost it! Revelation 12:7-8 -- "And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven."

Thanks be unto God, in that blissful abode "nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more" (Isaiah 2:4; Micah 4:3). Satan and his servants will not be there to fight against Christ's servants, and Christ's servants will not be fighting with one another. These facts alone constitute one of
the reasons why amidst ongoing labors Christ's Heavenly servants shall experience undisturbed peace -- forever!

"If ye be Christ's, then are ye ABRAHAM'S SEED, and heirs according to the promise" (Galatians 3:29) -- and just read God's promise to ABRAHAM'S SEED: "I have chosen the seed of Abraham my friend. Thou whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called thee.. THOU ART MY SERVANT; I have chosen thee, and not cast thee away (Isaiah 41:8-9). Christ's Heavenly servants -- taken from the ends of the earth -- shall never see the end of either their SERVICE -- or their SECURITY! The "Israel of God" shall be "saved in the Lord with an everlasting salvation.. world without end" (Isaiah 45:17). Do I hear a loud HALLELUJAH!!?

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05 -- THE VANITY OF HUMANITY TODAY

"Surely every man walketh in a vain show" (Psalm 39:6)

Never before in the history of the world has there been so much vanity in humanity! Furthermore, in these last days "there be many things that increase vanity" and "what is man the better?" (Eccl. 6:11). The answer is: No man is the better for it, and instead we are seeing a continual "increase of sinful men, to augment yet the fierce anger of the Lord" (Numbers 32:14)!

01 -- VAIN HEARTS

The source of today's increased vanity in humanity lies in the heart. Apart from the Grace of God, men, women, boys and girls are vain in heart. Fallen and unredeemed humanity is so inherently connected with vanity that thrice God's Word declares, "they ARE vanity" -- Jer. 10:15; Jer 51:18; Hosea 12:11. In Psalm 39:5 we read of how fallen man "at his best state IS altogether vanity," and in the 11th verse of the same psalm we read that "every man IS vanity." And, one's position in society does not change this fact: Psalm 62:9 -- "Surely men of low degree ARE vanity, and men of high degree are a lie: to be laid in the balance, they ARE altogether lighter than vanity." Ecclesiastes 6:4 declares that fallen man "COMETH IN with vanity, and departeth in darkness, and his name shall be covered with darkness."

Psalm 58:3 says, "The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born.." Since Adam's Fall, all in the human race have been "estranged from the womb," and apart from Christ "as soon as they be born" they "go astray" into vanity. Fallen humanity "comes in[to the world] with vanity" in the heart, and unless redeemed and purified by Christ men and women "depart" in the darkness of that vanity, and shall "shall be covered with" eternal "darkness"! What a sad picture! but it is the picture painted in God's Word. The reason why the darkness of vanity in humanity is now increasing is because, while the world's
population rises, fewer and fewer people are delivered from that inward vanity which resulted from the Fall.

A complete list of how the increased vanity of humanity is apparent today could fill a volume. I shall limit myself to only a few such manifestations.

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02 -- VAIN THINKERS

Vanity in the heart begets vain thinking. The Bible is replete with the proof of this: Job 15:35 -- "They conceive mischief, and bring forth vanity, and their belly prepareth deceit." Psalm 94:11 -- "The Lord knoweth the thoughts of man, that they are vanity." Ephesians 4:17 -- "This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind." Romans 1:21 -- Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened." 1 Cor. 3:20 -- "And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain."

Acts 4:25 asks, "Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things?" The answer is: Vanity in the heart begat vanity in the mind, making it "the carnal mind" which "is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (Romans 8:7).

There are millions of "vain thinkers" today -- every one of them possessed of the carnal mind. They often "speak great, swelling words" (2 Peter 2:18; Jude 16), to voice their vain and carnal thoughts. If you could buy them for what they are worth and sell them for what they think they are worth, you would be a multi-billionaire!

The Psalmist David declared: "I hate vain thoughts: but thy law do I love" (Psalm 119:113). He merely expressed the opinion of God Himself!

Through the prophet Jeremiah, God says: "O Jerusalem, wash thine heart from wickedness, that thou mayest be saved. How long shall thy vain thoughts lodge within thee?" (Jer. 4:14). How long shall vain thought lodge in the minds of men and proliferate as they are today? Answer: Until the carnal mind is purged away by the blood of Christ. Only then, will vain thoughts cease.

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03 -- VAIN WALKERS

Again, my text: "Surely every man walketh in a vain show" (Psalm 39:6). The fact that "many.. desire to make a fair show in the flesh" (Gal. 6:12) is sickeningly obvious! Though Proverbs 31:30 tells us that "favour is deceitful, and beauty is
vain," and that "a woman that feareth the Lord.. shall be praised," we see many women, even in the professed Church, painting themselves like Jezebel and bedecking themselves with all sorts of jewelry and hairdos -- "in a vain show!"

There is no salvation for women in this. Psalm 149:4 declares that "the Lord.. will beautify the meek with salvation." But Jeremiah 4:30 warns those who put on a vain show: "When thou art spoiled, what wilt thou do? Though thou clothest thyself with crimson, though thou deckest thee with ornaments of gold, though thou rentest thy face with painting, in vain shalt thou make thyself fair; thy lovers will despise thee, they will seek thy life."

The vexed king Solomon said: "I saw vanity under the sun" (Eccl. 4:7) -- and, there was a lot of it among his vain wives and throughout his kingdom. There is much, much more of it seen today -- as along with proud women, "every" unredeemed "man walketh in a vain show" also. The Psalmist prayed: "Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way" (Psalm 119:37). If God answered that prayer for many -- THEY COULDN'T LOOK IN THE MIRROR!

Never has the following admonition of the apostle Paul to the Church been more needful: "Let us not be desirous of vain glory.." (Galatians 5:26). And never has there been more need in our nation and around the globe to heed it.

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04 -- VAIN TALKERS

Twice, the apostle Paul warned of such: "Holding fast the faithful Word.. for there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers.." (1 Timothy 1:9-10) "For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers.." (Titus 1:10).

Turn on the radio today, and you will find "vain talkers" on every station! Talk-show hosts like Rush Humbug drone on and on in expressing their egotistical opinions. Whether they are right or wrong, their pride and vanity is sickeningly apparent. "Shall" such "vain words have an end?" (Job 16:3) Only if you turn the radio off! Apparently "they think they shall be heard" and believed "for their much speaking" (Matt. 6:7) But the best counsel, even politically, comes from God through His Word and His Spirit, and not from these "vain talkers"!

Once again, a twice-stated admonition of St. Paul should be heeded: "O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings.." (1 Timothy 6:20). "But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness" (2 Timothy 2:16).

It is spiritually hazardous to drink in everything put forth by even the most conservative Talk-show hosts, and "vain talkers" who seem to be a bit religious should not be trusted as safe guides -- especially when they use vulgarities and
profanities in their vain talk: "If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain" (Jas. 1:26). Paul warned Timothy of some who had "turned aside unto vain jangling" (1 Timothy 1:6), and he admonished the Ephesian Church: "Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience" (Eph. 5:6). Finally, Paul admonished the Colossians: "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ" (Col. 2:8).

Isaiah 59:4 speaks of those who "trust in vanity." It will pay to be careful who you trust and who you believe, for there are many "vain talkers" today!

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05 -- VAIN FOLLOWERS

One cannot follow vanity without becoming vain. 2 Kings 17:15 -- "And they rejected his statutes, and his covenant that he made with their fathers, and his testimonies which he testified against them; and they followed vanity, and became vain, and went after the heathen that were round about them, concerning whom the Lord had charged them, that they should not do like them." Jeremiah 2:5 -- "Thus saith the Lord, What iniquity have your fathers found in me, that they are gone far from me, and have walked after vanity, and are become vain?"

Follow the vanity of another -- and perhaps even without at first realizing it, you too will become vain. The core beliefs of too many today are for sale. In his day, for a paltry "ten pieces of silver" we read of how "Abimelech hired vain and light persons, which followed him" (Judges 9:4).

It has often been said, "Every man has his price." The true Christian "can't be bought"! and won't follow either a man, or a multitude, to do evil. But those who follow vanity, become vain, and then they can be bought -- and often quite cheaply.

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06 -- VAIN WRITERS

Jeremiah 8:8 says that "the pen of the scribes is in vain." Ecclesiastes 12:12 declares: "Of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh." Never has the world known so many writers and so much text being sent forth -- in print and digitally. And, never has there been so much filth therein, and so much that is vain and utterly worthless!

In Acts 19:18-20 we read: "And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds. Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and
found it fifty thousand pieces of silver. So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed."

As vain writings have proliferated, the love and regard for God's Word has shrunk. It is certainly past time for an humongous Book Burning in the world! Only if millions would emulate the deeds of those in the above verses would we ever see a real, world-wide revival.

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07 -- VAIN LABORERS

I could add to the list a number of other types of vain persons, but I shall omit them, and close with "vain laborers".

In Ecclesiastes 1:14 we read: -- "I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit." And, the prophet Habakkuk wrote: "Behold, is it not of the Lord of hosts that the people shall labour in the very fire, and the people shall weary themselves for very vanity?" (Hab. 2:13).

Yes, it is of the Lord that people are vexed with their work, and labor in vain, when God has nothing to do with what they are doing. Therefore, probably over 99 percent of what is being done today is DONE IN VAIN -- amounting to nothing in God's sight. And this is no doubt true, even in the religious world. What a huge waste of time!

But the labor of God's most humble and obscure servants counts for something! In the sight of the world, it may amount to nothing, but in God's sight it is of great value. Thus, St. Paul could write to the Corinthian Church: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Cor. 15:58).

Yes, dear servant of Christ, amidst the massive amount of vanity in humanity today, YOU AND YOUR LABOR MEAN MUCH IN GOD’S SIGHT! When you get to Heaven, your earthly labors will be rewarded with that which Bill Gates could never come close to buying with his billions!

Furthermore, when you get to Heaven your continuing labors there will not be hindered by Satan and those things which beset them in this vain and empty world:

In Heaven, God's servants "shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the Lord, and their offspring with them" (Isa. 65:23). Do I hear another LOUD HALLELUJAH?

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The title of my article is an old proverb that I first heard many years ago. Have you ever heard it? and wondered what it meant? It means that one should not be ungrateful when receiving a gift.

It's origin dates way, way back to at least the 1500s, when the horse was the primary means of overland transportation, and when horses were sometimes given as gifts. The meaning of the proverb is found in the fact that as horses age their teeth begin to project farther forward each year, and when "looking a horse in the mouth" one can thus estimate its age.

According to information I found online, the precise originator of the proverb is unknown, but it was originally worded thus: "Don't look a given horse in the mouth," and first appeared in print in 1546 in "The Proverbs of John Heywood," an Englishman who then wrote it: "No man ought to looke a geuen hors in the mouth."

The proverb "Don't look a gift horse in the mouth" therefore means:-- Don't discourteously and skeptically examine a gift to estimate its value while the giver beholds you doing so, lest he or she think you to be ungrateful for the gift. Rather, express your gratitude, accept the gift, and be wise enough to make your estimate of the gift's value only when later you are away from the presence of the giver.

This reminds me of a story I heard about one who was supposedly in dire straits who was offered a large amount of corn by one who raised it. The person who was offered the corn asked his would-be benefactor: "Is it shelled?" -- meaning, "Is it husked? so that I will not have to do any work to get it prepared for cooking?"

This "Freddy the Freeloader" was, in effect, "looking a gift horse in the mouth." He wanted food for nothing! -- not food that would cost him a little bit of work to prepare for his cooking and eating.

Unfortunately, like this ingrate, many today expect everything served up to them on a silver platter and costing them little or nothing. Before accepting anything from either Man or God, they "look the given horse in the mouth" -- viz., they carefully scrutinize it, and if it is "old" and not "mod" -- or will cost them some effort, they don't want it!

Everything in the Bible they judge to be like an "Old Nag" with protruding teeth that will get them absolutely nowhere -- when, in fact, "the gift of God" will get them out of sin and into Heaven. Rejecting this supposedly old and worthless "gift horse" they dump it for the modern jet-set things that they think will get them rapidly where they want to go to obtain fun, fame, and fortune -- not realizing that this fast-track leads to hell.
"The gift of God!? I doubt that!" they say, "but if it is, I want nothing to do with it!" They assess that the "protruding teeth" in Christ's Gospel are nothing more than "an old nag" that is constantly "nagging" folks to forsake all that is really pleasurable in return for nothing more than an ethereal, and actually unreal promise of "pie in the sky by and by."

Furthermore, if "the gift of God" involves any "shelling of the corn" they don't want it! The only gospel that they will accept is one where "Jesus paid it all," and all they have to do is "believe" -- just believe -- nothing more! If it is told them that they must first do works "meet for repentance" (Matt. 3:8; Acts 26:20) before they can really believe unto salvation, they will reject that "old corn" that must be "shelled" for the "canned corn" of easy believe-ism -- the kind where all they must do is pop out a can, put it into the electric can-opener, zip it open, stick it in the microwave for 30 seconds and then gobble it down -- no muss, no fuss, nothing to do but enjoy it! In fact, many such want that can of corn itself, "without money and without price"!

During Christ's earthly ministry, the Jews, as it were, "examined the teeth" of God's gift to them in the Person of Jesus and said, "WE WILL NOT HAVE THIS MAN to reign over us" (Luke 19:14). Like millions today, they assessed the gift of God's salvation to be nothing more than a "buck-toothed" old horse -- an impostor and imposition upon their dignity that would get them nowhere.

To such, the true Christian can say, "If thou knewest the Gift of God" (John 4:10) -- not by carnal assessment but by spiritual revelation -- you would never so greatly misjudge it!

Numberless thousands down across the centuries who have been wise enough not to skeptically and unbelievingly "look this Heavenly Gift in the mouth" have discovered that He is God's "unspeakable Gift"! -- Who has pulled them out of the awful pit of sin and Who will transport them victoriously through the gates into the City Foursquare!

When it comes to the gifts of men, "Don't look a gift horse in the mouth" is a matter of courtesy and kindness. When it comes to the gift of God, not doubtfully and ungratefully questioning its value and importance so as to reject it, is always a matter of eternal destiny. Selah.

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07 -- LIKE HINDS' FEET IN HIS STEPS

"He maketh MY FEET LIKE HINDS' FEET, and setteth me upon my high places" (Psalm 18:33).
"For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that YE SHOULD FOLLOW HIS STEPS." (1 Peter 2:21)

Yes, my title is unusual, but please read on.

In his 1937 book, "I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes," author Glenn Clark's Introductory Chapter 1 is quite intriguing. The book now being in the public domain, I shall first present most of that chapter by way of presenting thereafter what I consider to be a deeper and truer application than that made by the writer. I have chosen to blank-out the complete names of the people to whom the author refers. Read on... You will find this story to be interesting, fascinating, and very applicable to some deep and profound spiritual truth.

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Chapter I -- Hind's Feet That Lead to High Places

I was sitting alone in a little restaurant waiting for someone to take my order, and looking absent-mindedly out of the window. I felt an inner turmoil, and the whirling wind and the pattering rain outside did not do much to allay my mood. Just then the door opened and in came D____ M____.

M____ was a vigorous young cleric, struggling along in some little out-of-the-way church, a happy-go-lucky, likable chap, the kind one usually expects to go so far and no farther in any field he enters. I had known him in college days. I sprang a little wisecrack about winds bringing breezy guests, but he did not answer me in the old bantering tones. Instead, as he sat down opposite me and reached his hand across, clasping mine with a firm grip, I was aware of a strange new power in his presence. It stirred something in me to the very marrow of my bones. As I looked into his eyes his whole countenance fairly shone.

I asked him what he would have, and after scanning the menu carefully he ordered from it leisurely, and invited me to join him in luncheon for two. I assented, wondering at the indomitable something about him, an atmosphere of dignity and power -- well, I guess you would call it self-unconsciousness -- that I had never noted before.

"What has happened to you?" I finally blurted out. "Have you inherited a million dollars?" "Greater than that," he smiled, "I have found the water of life." "Ponce de Leon or monkey glands?" I inquired.

"I see that I have surprised you," he said, putting his coffee-cup away from his lips. "It is not strange, for I am a surprise to myself. I am a new man, and the alteration has taken place within the last six months. I wouldn't change places with a millionaire."
"You wouldn't!" I exclaimed, incredulously, for I had always thought that
D____ liked money. "No," he said, buttering his roll. "A millionaire has spent his
enthusiasm; mine is all at hand."

"You amaze me," I replied, wondering if he had been drinking wine. "Won't
you tell me your secret? I should like to hear it."

"It is very simple," he said smiling. "All you have to do is to make your feet
like hind's feet and God will do the rest."

"Hind's feet!" I exclaimed, "Hind's feet! I don't get the idea. Will you explain?"

"Gladly. I intend to tell the whole world. A few months ago I was in what I
thought was a blind alley. I thought that nothing on sea or land could take me out of
it. I was in a rut, inside and out. Then out of the blue sky I heard a story. I was on a
train between Boston and Portland [Maine] when I met a white-haired gentleman
who talked with me one hour. Just one hour, mind you, but that one hour changed
me inside and outside. It would have changed you, too. You have no idea what it did
for me. Nothing is impossible after that story. It makes everything as plain as A-B-
C" "How can a story work such wonders ?" I gasped.

"Very simple. Listen. First something happens inside one. Get that? Inside
one -- deep, deep down inside one. Secretly, silently, invisibly inside one.
Understand?""Yes," I said.

"Then -- and here is the strange part of it -- here is the miraculous part that
you will find hard to believe -- after the change happens inside, everything begins to
change outside, too."

"I don't believe I see the logic," I replied. "I don't see the connection."

"Never mind; you will -- as soon as you hear the story. That is, as soon as
you hear it and practice it. Practicing it is very important."

"What has it done for you ?" I asked. "What has it brought you on the
outside? I can see by looking into your eyes that it has brought you something on
the inside."

His eyes shone like stars at this compliment. "You know what a little job I had
before," he replied. "Well, that wasn't what bothered me. What hurt me was the
knowledge that I wasn't adequate for that job, much less something greater. After
that hour on the train I began for the first time to render real service to my people.
Then out of a clear sky I was called to one of the greatest churches in the United
States," and he named a church which I considered, in some ways, the most
famous church in America.
"Just to think," I exclaimed, "that you are now an assistant pastor in the greatest church in America!"

"Not assistant pastor," he corrected, "but head pastor."

"What!" I exclaimed, no longer able to hide my amazement. "I can't believe it."

He smiled, not at all provoked by my unabashed incredulity. "You see, it works."

"It must be a remarkable story!" I cried, now my curiosity fully aroused. "Please tell it to me."

"All right, I will tell you, though really you should hear it from the old gentle man himself. However, I will tell you the best I can. It is like this. You see..."

The waiter interrupted us at that moment, saying that someone on the phone wanted "Reverend D____ M____." "Pardon me," he said. "I'll be right back," and he hurried away. Soon he returned, saying, "Sorry, but an unexpected call demands my instant attention," and he rushed out.

Some months later I was in New York City, walking down Broadway. At the corner of Twenty-third I met my friend J____ B____ in the middle of the crowded street. He must have been watching me for some time. His eyes had evidently been smiling at me in the kindliest way before I saw him. I had never thought of J____ as an especially "benevolent old gentleman," but he certainly was the picture of it now. J____, though undoubtedly possessed of real talent, had never gotten his talent across. But there was something very majestic and sweeping and all-conquering about him as he approached me, smiling, that day. As he reached out and shook my hand I felt a thrill clear through me, to the center of my being. He looked squarely into my eyes and his countenance fairly shone.

There was an air of dignity and power and -- yes, unencumbered unself-consciousness -- about him that could not be concealed. "Still playing in the town band?" I asked.

"Come in here," he said, drawing me into a drug store. "I have a lot to tell you."

"Lemonade for two," he ordered, and drew me to a side table...

"What have you heard about me?" he asked as he sipped through a straw. I hate straws. I drank mine down at two gulps. It was a hot day.

"I heard that you had applied for a job with a famous orchestra and had been turned down."
"Right," he exclaimed with a laugh. "But did you hear the sequel?" I shook my head.

"Well, it was this way," he continued. "I was riding out of New York, on the New Haven and Hartford, when a white-haired gentleman sat down beside me. He turned to me and without a moment's hesitation said, 'You are discouraged, young man, and you have no right to be.' I replied that I thought I had a right to be, after spending time and toil and money for years and years in the most careful, thorough preparation, only to find that every door was closed against me. He smiled very pleasantly and said, 'Change your feet to hind's feet, young man, and your luck will change.'"

"Hind's feet!" I exclaimed, startled. "Go on. Tell me the rest. What happened?"

"Well, I went on to my destination and didn't pay much attention to what the old man had said. Then a few weeks later in the middle of the night I awoke and suddenly realized what he meant. I took the first train to New York, went straight back to the same company -- yes, the same company that had turned me down, and asked them if there was a chance for me to have a small part and show them what I could do. The director asked me point blank if I could play the cello in a famous composition which he named. I said, 'Yes.' He replied, 'Our leading cellist has just this hour been stricken with a severe illness. He will be out for two months. You are to take his place.' 'When do I start?' I cried, hardly believing my ears. 'Tomorrow night.' I almost fainted."...

"But the hind's feet!" I exclaimed. "Tell me what they had to do with it."

"It's a long story," he replied, "and as I am expecting a long-distance call in a few minutes, I'll have to ask you to come with me to the company's office right away. It is just across the street. I'll tell you on the way."

The din of traffic in a great New York street drowned our conversation until we entered a high building. Then J____ turned to me, "When you get hind's feet you learn first of all that you must get quiet inside -- deep, deep down inside. Do you catch on?"

We had now entered the elevator. "But how does the change happen inside?" I asked. "That is what I want to know." "That is where the secret lies. But here we are."

As we entered the rooms a secretary rushed in to meet him. "So glad you are here, Mr. B____. They have been trying for an hour to get you on the long-distance from Detroit. They want you to be the cello soloist tomorrow night, and the train leaves right away."
"Sorry, old chap," he said to me, "but I must go. Come in again some other time when I have a lot of leisure, and I'll try to tell you the whole thing from beginning to end."

I returned to Chicago on one of those windy, gusty days when all Lake Michigan seemed blowing down across the streets. As the little college in Illinois where I was going to resume my second year of teaching would not open for a few days, I decided that I would attend some lecture or play or concert that night, and resume my journey on the morrow. Finding by the papers that Miss M____ G____, author of a best-selling novel, would lecture that evening at a well-known lecture-hall, I made my plans to attend.

It was a very interesting lecture, but it was not till near the very close that the startling thing happened. Suddenly she came to the front of the platform and said, "Now I am going to tell you how I came to write this book. I had gone to Colorado as a broken-down school-teacher, without any money and without any friends, and threatened with tuberculosis. I tried my hand at writing, but without success. Then one day while riding on the train between Greeley and Denver I met a white-haired man who told me I should cease living in the lowlands of life, and travel on hind's feet to the high places. I took his advice and changed myself from a factory, trying to manufacture ideas, into a channel for letting ideas flow through me. And this book -- this best seller -- is the result."

She stopped speaking and I pressed my way to the platform, but before I could get there she was gone. She was on the way to the train, I was told, to meet her next lecture engagement.

The following day I resumed my journey to the college town where I was to continue my career as a teacher of creative writing and reading. Three months later, on a cold December day, I was riding between Aledo, Illinois, and Des Moines, Iowa, on my way home for the Christmas holidays. The big event of the holidays was to be my wedding.

I was looking out of the window at the snowflakes whisking down when I noticed an elderly man, with white hair, walking slowly through the car, looking in a benign way into the countenances of the passengers as he went by. When he reached my seat he halted.

"Pardon me," he said, "but would you mind if I sat down in the seat beside you for a while?"

"Certainly not," I replied. As soon as he was seated he turned to me. "You are engaged in religious work of some kind, are you not?" he asked.

"Oh no," I answered, laughing. "I am merely a teacher of literature..."
He hesitated for just a moment. "But you have a spiritual influence upon the young men you associate with, do you not?" I hesitated. "Well, perhaps I do."

"I am in a business," he began, "that carries me to all parts of the country. On every journey I find myself led to tell my story to one person. God always directs me to the person to whom I am to tell it, and now I find myself led to tell it to you."

"I shall be glad to hear your story," I replied.

"It happened to me in this wise. I had come to Akron, Ohio, as a young man of energy and promise. I threw myself headlong into my business and it began to thrive beyond all expectations. I was soon head of the firm. Not satisfied with being president of one concern, I organized another, and then became director of others. I was making money hand over fist. All I thought about, morning, noon, and night, was money, money, money. And then something happened. It always happens when you burn the candle at both ends and leave God out of the picture, doesn't it? I had a breakdown.

"Well, the doctor said I was done with, that my working-days were over, my only hope lay in making some drastic changes in my life. He told me to go to a lake and rest -- do nothing but rest for months and months. Then he would see if I could do any work again.

"I went to Isle Royal in Lake Superior. As my strength gradually returned I would go out in a rowboat and idle about for hours. Something about the wide expanse of water beneath a summer sky rested me -- it was doing something to me inside and outside. A new peace began to enter into me. And then the great experience happened.

"I had gone out in a boat, near sunset. I was rather drowsy and before I knew it I had fallen asleep. When I awoke hours later the boat was out of sight of land, and there was no way for me to determine whether I was north, south, or east of the island. Knowing how quickly a squall can arise on Lake Superior and how easily a boat is overturned, also how drowned bodies never come to the surface in this coldest of all northern waters, I was filled with a panic of fear. I started to pray, and then found that I couldn't. And why? Simply because I wasn't worthy to pray. My whole past came up before me. What would be the value of saving a man like me, a man who did nothing but accumulate money for himself? What would the world lose if I should never return?

"And then I made a promise to God. I promised Him that if He would save me I would devote half of my time henceforth to His work, to helping mankind, especially young people. And then the answer came."
At this point the old gentleman fumbled in his pocket and brought forth a picture postal card. It looked exactly like a photograph. It was a pictorial arrangement of a man alone in a rowboat on a lake, and above his head were the moon and stars, and among the stars one immense star -- about ten times the size of the other stars, and about one-fourth the size of the moon. I wondered if the Star of Bethlehem could have looked like that.

"This star suddenly appeared in the sky," he said, pointing to the large star in the picture. "It was an immense star, such as I had never seen before. I was overwhelmed with the mystery and wonder of it, but taking it as a sign I fixed my eyes upon it and, keeping it at the tail of my boat, I rowed and rowed without looking around for hours and hours. When I finally did look around I was going straight up to the landing-pier whence I had started.

"That is all of my story," he ended abruptly, starting to rise. "Keep it in your mind and plant it in your heart, and some day it may bear fruit in your life. How and when I know not, but this I know: What comes from God is eternal. What God has not planted will be rooted up; but what God has planted will bear fruit one hundred fold."

"Please wait a minute," I said. "What happened to you afterwards?"

"I merely took an elevator and went up to another floor. My life -- the regular business and church life I had been living -- went on as usual, but in an entirely different world. I found myself living thenceforth in a heavenly world where love and peace and happiness were everywhere about me in my life, with my business associates, and, yes, with the chance acquaintances I meet upon my travels." And he smiled at me.

"But how did you get up to that higher level?" I asked.

"It is a secret," he replied, "a great and wonderful secret. But if you really must know the secret, here it is: HE MAKETH MY FEET LIKE HIND'S FEET AND SETTETH ME UPON MY HIGH PLACES."

I started. "Hind's feet!" The words had been ringing in my ears for months. At last I had found the man -- the man of mystery. At last I had caught up with the story that my friends had started to tell me."That is all." And again he started to rise.

"But can you explain what you mean by hind's feet?" I begged. "Does God explain to the deer how they are to use their feet?" he asked enigmatically. "No, they just use them. Go forth, son, and use them."

"But may I ask one more question?" I asked hesitatingly. "Certainly."

"What trail, what track do the hinds use when they go to the high places?"
He smiled. "The best trail that I have found is the Lord's Prayer." And he rose, handed me his card, and went away.

I looked at the card, expecting to find some mysterious name fresh from fairyland. But there it stood, quite plain and prosaic -- Mr. F____, of Akron, Ohio.

My journey was ended. I went to Grinnell and to Des Moines, and a few days later back to Grinnell, where I was married, and with my bride I returned to my college town.

In the meantime I almost forgot the old white-haired gentleman and his story. Indeed, I might have dismissed the entire episode as a dream and the man as a figment of my imagination, had it not been for one very tangible and startling incident that happened to me as soon as I reached the college town.

I took my wife into a rambling house which I had rented for our first home. I went down to fix the furnace, an immense soft-coal furnace with octopus arms holding up the house. I had thrown one shovelful of coal into its mouth and stood, poised, shovel in hand, ready to toss in the second, when I saw something that made my jaw drop and the coal spill to the floor. There above the door to the furnace was a name-plate bearing the inscription, The F____ Akron Furnace Company! So Mr. F____ was a real man, after all! I had good reason to know, for the product of his factory warmed our home that first winter of our married lives! Yes, I have a still deeper reason to know, for the words of his heart have been warming my life ever since! If I needed anything more to convince me that he was not a dream, but a fact, it came a few months later when I received a copy of the Western Christian Advocate with a picture of "The Largest Men’s Bible Class in the World, the First Methodist Church of Akron, Ohio, Mr. F____, Leader."

But dream or not, the seed he planted was not a dream, but was a reality. Nine years after this it suddenly opened its hard casing and started to bear fruit -- fifty, sixty, and one hundred fold.

Nine years had gone by and I had forgotten about the old gentleman and his hind's feet, when circumstances led to my spending a few weeks on a Wyoming ranch. It was not a dude ranch, but the real thing. At my request a horse was turned over to me for my private use, and I was privileged to rough it with the cowboys in any manner I wished. I discovered that my horse was the fastest horse on the range. I wondered why this honor had been bestowed upon me. But I soon learned that while speed may be the most important thing on the plains, there is something much more significant on the mountains.

One day five of us were riding up the steep mountain-side to salt the cattle that roamed the plateau above. Everything went well until we came to a dangerous, slippery, craggy place, where a mis-step would send us all to eternity. Then it was
that the men advised me to take the less dangerous pathway that led by a slower route to the mountain top. When I asked them why I, alone, was asked to take this safer route, the foreman answered: "It is because your horse is not dependable on the hills. All the rest of our horses are true climbers -- their rear feet track exactly where the forefeet are planted. When they place their forefoot upon a safe ridge, their rear foot will follow safely, too. But your horse, unfortunately, spent several years in the cities, and he lost the gift. Like all other animals over-exposed to modern civilization, his rear feet miss the front tracks by about two or three inches, and we are now going up trails where a miss of even an inch might mean death."

"I see," I replied. "Your horses have feet like the deer and the antelope."

"Exactly," he replied. "And a horse has to be as sure-footed as a mountain goat to take this trail to the high places."

And then a great light burst upon me. As I took that winding road that day I was glad to be alone, for the secret of the old whitehaired gentleman was at last mine. The mystery of the hind's feet was solved. The deeper I got into the mystery the more marvelous it became. Thick and fast great thoughts came to me -- thoughts that were as blinding as revelations. Here are a few of them, as best I can recall them:

No animal has such perfect correlation of its front and rear feet as does the deer. While the male deer, or the HART, is a wonder of surefootedness, still more wonderful is the female, or the HIND, which, while leading its young into hidden fastnesses, is the most perfect example of physical correlation that God has ever made.

And this was the blinding revelation: As the feet of the hind are to the mountains, so is the mind of man to the heights of life; and as the rear feet of the hind are to the front feet, so is the subconscious mind of man to the conscious mind. And as the creature which has the most perfect correlation between its front and its rear feet is the surest to reach the mountain top in safety, so the person who has the most perfect correlation between his conscious mind and his subconscious mind is the surest to reach the heights of life.

[Reader, Please Note:-- at the close of the writer's portion of this, I shall make what I believe is a better and truer application of his revelation. -- DVM]

"And he maketh my feet like hind's feet: and setteth me upon my high places." The Secret was revealed at last. I now knew what Jesus meant when He said, "Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, be thou removed and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that these things which he saith cometh to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Ye, if ye have faith, though it be even as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall ask what ye will; and nothing shall be impossible unto you."
Our lips speak the thoughts of our conscious mind, but only the heart speaks the thoughts of our subconscious mind. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." "Out of the heart come the issues of life." And when the lips and the heart are in alignment, when they track together with the absolute certainty that the rear feet of the deer track with the front feet, then nothing is impossible, whether it be the climbing of mountains or the casting of mountains into the seas.

The wonder of this burst upon me with such force that I could hardly wait until I could get back to my work and put my new discovery to the test. I now saw that I had been missing the greatest blessings of life -- and merely by inches. But in these seemingly trivial inches lay the secret of the supreme power and security of the seers and the saints and the prophets who lived in the mountains. By the mere fraction of an inch by which the rear feet of my city horse missed the security of the front feet, by merely that inch my life and the purposes of my life had been endangered. Only he who goes into the mountains in the morning and prays knows this secret. And so I, with the rest of the blind people of the cities and towns, had been taking the wide gate and the broad way that led to failure and futility, when all we needed to do was to change our feet to hind's feet and climb straight to the heights. "Enter ye in at the strait gate," came ringing into my ears as I rode along, "for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat. Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." But he who has made his feet into hind's feet will find that climbing this narrow way is not so hard as many think.

"I have found the way! I have found the way?" my soul was singing. But I knew that I must not get excited. Much hard thinking and still harder work was to be done. Where did my conscious and subconscious mind track together? This was one of the first questions to be answered. How many things had I done with all my strength, with all my mind, and with all my heart, and with all my soul -- in other words, with "all four feet"? Pitifully few, I had to confess to myself. Had I spent so many years in the cities of materialism that my feet, like the feet of my horse, had lost their secret of correlation?

I had taught my students the little front-feet laws of writing, called grammar and rhetoric; how many had I taught the laws of the hind's feet and how to climb to the high places of true vision? I had filled hundreds of students' minds with knowledge; how many souls had I filled with faith? Many bachelors of arts had passed through my classes; how many prophets had I insjoired? I could count those I had given passing grades by the hundreds; in how many had I awakened the hearts of poets?... I had been filling my mind with knowledge of things; did I know any more about the stars than my ancestors knew? I had accumulated a little house, a little insurance, a little nest egg toward my old age; how much wealth did I have that could be carried on my journey into the next stage of life? All around me was a multitude of things to take care of; how many things did I own? These were the questions that would not sleep, the doubts that would not stay outside my warmed and lighted room, and the more I postponed the answer to them the louder
and more insistent they became, until they finally merged themselves into one
great, insistent, clamoring question which would not be silenced, saying, "What
shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

From that day forth I let nothing stand between me and the making of my feet
into hind's feet as fast as I could. And with each new victory new vistas, new
visions opened upon my view. People began to come to me for help, for strength,
for inspiration. But I was not satisfied in merely helping them; I wanted them to
make their own feet into hind's feet so that they, too, could help others. For I have
made this discovery that what every city needs, every community needs, every
institution needs, every church needs, every neighborhood needs, more than it
needs money or buildings or things, is a man or woman who can meet the
description given in Isa. 32:2, "And a man shall be as a hiding-place from the wind,
and a covert from the tempest; as streams of water in a dry place, as the shadow of
a great rock in a weary land."...

*     *     *

While there is a marvelously true, spiritual element in what the author sets
forth in this chapter, it is my belief that he fails to make the truest and best
application of the "Hinds' Feet" analogy. He wrote: "... as the rear feet of the hind
are to the front feet, so is the subconscious mind of man to the conscious mind.
And as the creature which has the most perfect correlation between its front and its
rear feet is the surest to reach the mountain top in safety, so the person who has
the most perfect correlation between his conscious mind and his subconscious
mind is the surest to reach the heights of life."

But the parable cannot "walk on all fours"! Human beings are two-footed
creatures, not four-footed hinds, and "The Front Feet" of men and women are NOT
their subconscious mind. Mankind's only FRONT FEET are THE FEET OF JESUS,
Who leads all unerringly who will follow Him. "YE SHOULD FOLLOW HIS STEPS,"
wrote the apostle Peter. It is when the conscious mind and heart of a person begin
to step exactly into the prescribed steps of Jesus that Christ reveals Himself within
the heart in the New Birth -- and, it is as born-again Christians continue to set their
feet spiritually and obediently "in His steps" that they are kept from falling and that
they can attain the heights of power and usefulness in this world and in that greater
world which is to come.

This, I believe, is the greater, better, and truer application of the "Hinds' Feet"
analogy of this marvelous story. Perhaps old white-haired Mr. F_____ discovered
this, along with some others to whom he told his fascinating story. It is to be hoped
that this is the case. For, it is only those who "follow His steps" who can truthfully
say, ""He maketh MY feet like HINDS' FEET, and setteth me upon my high places"
(Psalm 18:33).

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OUTLANDISH HOUSE

In a news item that I found online, dated Thursday, December 29, 2005, a judge declared the above pictured house to be a danger, and ordered it to be repaired or demolished. I forbear stating where it is located, or the name of its owner. The 52 year old owner estimated that he's invested $2 million dollars worth of time in "research and development" in building this housing contraption over the years. At the time of the news report, however, he said it would be torn down within the next couple of months.

*     *     *

OUTLANDISH HEBREW WORD

The English word, "outlandish" means:-- conspicuously unconventional; bizarre, or strange. Originally, the word seems to have meant:-- something "out" beyond the border of the "land" -- something foreign and unfamiliar, not native to the land. Then eventually it took on the more common meaning of being something conspicuously bizarre or strange.

The word "outlandish" is used only once in the Bible:-- Nehemiah 13:26 "Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? yet among many nations was there no king like him, who was beloved of his God, and God made him king over all Israel: nevertheless even him did OUTLANDISH women cause to sin."

The Hebrew word for "outlandish" is "nok-ree", the meaning of which is quite synonymous with the meaning of the English word:-- strange, foreign, non-relative, alien.

*     *     *

OUTLANDISH HAIRDOS

It would not surprise me that the "outlandish women" -- who turned Solomon's heart away from God -- had outlandish hairdos like many worldly women have had across the centuries. But females are not alone in this form of outlandishness. They have many male counterparts who have also indulged their vanity with hairdo insanity! Some women with long hair have built mountainous hairdos on top of their noggins with all sorts of things therein -- so tall that they would need to sleep with their heads a foot or more down from the bedstead. There is simply no end to the weird ways women have done their hair -- including "done" shaving it all off. And, their male counterparts have followed suit. One does not need to live long or go far to behold such. Perhaps even today you will see
someone parading down the street with one of them, and you will feel like saying, "Now that's outlandish"!

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OUTLANDISH HOMOSEXUALS

Of all things outlandish to me, homosexual outlandishness takes the cake! -- it is "out" beyond the border of the "land" of normalcy! It is outlandish to pawn it off as normal! Let them call it an inherited aberration of they will, but if it is an inherited abnormality why isn't anybody looking for the cure! Instead, homosexuals are demanding that their outlandish behavior be accepted as normal! My friends, it is NOT normal for a man to dress like a woman and to indulge in sexual acts with another man -- nor is it normal for a woman to dress like a man and to take another woman as her paramour! When I have seen pictures of such weirdos posing with each other at a sham and shameful, so-called "marriage ceremony" -- something within me has cried out, as it were, "Now that's outlandish! That's sickening! That's "out" beyond the "land" of normalcy, decency, and purity! That is certainly nothing that the Bible nor God ordains or condones!" Do I hear someone thinking:-- "Be careful, Duane Maxey, you might be arrested for saying that!" Well, that only proves how far "Outlandish Homosexuals" have succeeded in pawning off their vile and bizarre behavior as normal, and how bent they are upon silencing and jailing all who dare to call homosexual behavior what it really is:-- Outlandish, Out-Normal-ish, Out-Bible-ish, and Out-Godly-ish -- something that should be purged from society -- just as surely it shall be from Heaven!

*     *     *

OUTLANDISH HISPANICS

During the past several days, vast thousands of Hispanic, illegal aliens have been demonstrating in the streets of Los Angeles, Phoenix, and various other cities across the U.S. Yesterday, I heard some of them on the radio boisterously declaring:-- "WE'RE IMMIGRANTS! WHATCHA GOT AGAINST US!?"

It is both incredible and outlandish, that countless thousands of these illegal interlopers can publicly demonstrate with impunity! -- not fearing that any U.S. Law Enforcement Officers of any kind will arrest them and have them deported!

They're "HERE" they declare -- and they are rubbing it in the face of all who dare to challenge their supposed right to BE HERE!

(1) Unscrupulous U.S. businessmen want their cheap labor. (2) Unscrupulous politicians want their vote. These are the "Two Horns of the Bull" which the Hispanic Illegals have grasped, and which they have used to "hold on" to their illegal residence in our nation. And, President Jorge Bush is even now in Mexico (or
soon will be) to again help their clever Presidente Fox continue to "Guard The Henhouse" of U.S. Immigration Policy.

As I behold Outlandish Hispanics, and their dear friends, Jorge Bush and his ilk, destroy the national integrity of our nation, I am appalled, and declare:-- "Now that's outlandish"!

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OUTLANDISH HARLEQUINS IN HIGH OFFICE

There was a time in our nation when most of the buffoons and clowns were in the circus. Now many of them are in the Circuit Courts, and in the U.S. Congress! Do the clear-headed, square-shouldered, upright citizens go to the poles and vote something in, or down? Well, don't expect that it will necessarily be enacted or enforced! It is quite likely that some Circuit Court Judge will "Fudge" the issue and declare it unConstitutional. But if some of these Harlequins in High Courts had been in office during the American Revolution they would have declared the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution itself, to be unConstitutional! Further, if some air-headed, supposed-to-be Judge does not throw a monkey-wrench in the works, it is likely that many laws voted in by the wise electorate will never be enforced because the "Clowns in Congress" will manage to keep juggling it in the air until they can jury-rig its meaning into something quite different from what the people voted in! When I read and hear of such things done by today's Harlequins in High Office, I think to myself:-- "Now that's outlandish! That's a travesty of justice!

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OUTLANDISH HIGH-ROLLERS

Currently, there is an ad running on a local radio station, telling folks: "It's time to get out of Dodge" and come to Las Vegas! Come on! to Las Vegas! We'll give you so many days and nights of free lodging, and give you a ticket to a hot show on the strip! We'll treat you like "High Rollers"! You know you want to do this. Call NOW!

The so-called "High Rollers" who place huge bets and lose are the very ones who built Las Vegas! Every flashy and immensely expensive Casino and Hotel in that wicked city was built by Losers, not Winners! Why don't those "Outlandish High Rollers" ever catch on!? There's a REASON why they are offering you three days and two nights of free lodging in an expensive hotel in Vegas:-- They know that if they give that to people, odds are, that before most folks leave they will have lost far more than the cost of that lodging!!! If they were candid, they would say:-- Come, stay free for three days and two nights at our hotel and we will fleece you!
And the Indian tribes have also learned how to get rich off of the "Outlandish High Rollers" in America. Here in Phoenix, the radio often blares out an ad from an Indian Casino, saying that it's "WHERE THE WINNERS GO!" Perhaps -- but it's "WHERE THE LOSERS LEAVE!"

Further, when someone(s) win a multi-million-dollar jackpot in one of the many lotteries in the U.S., folks will "Ooooh" and "Ahhhhhh" about what a fantastic feeling it must be to be suddenly, vastly rich!

What we seldom, if ever, read about is the man who got his paycheck before the final drawing of one of these lotteries who cashed it and then spent every dollar of it on lottery tickets, thinking:-- "If I buy a big number of these, I may be a multi-millionaire tomorrow!" But, he lost -- and his wife and children had nothing for groceries, his house payment was not made, his car payment was not made, and his credit card payment was not made. Then, to make matters even worse, instead of learning from his loss, he went on to gamble even more in the future, in hopes of recouping his losses -- and ended up totally bankrupt! Finally, after losing all he had and perhaps his job and wife too, the man goes out and puts a bullet through his brain!

Why don't they advertise THAT!? I'll tell you why:-- because everyone who read of such behavior by gambling addicts who are High-Roller Losers would say, "Now that's outlandish"!

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OUTLANDISH HAS-BEENS

Well, I could go on and on, but with this little point I shall forbear. Sooner or later, everything and everyone that is "outlandish" will end-up being a "has-been". I don't know if that "Outlandish House" has been demolished, but in time it shall be. "Outlandish Has-Beens" of all sorts -- as bizarre, and foreign to Heaven, shall be forever banished "OUT-side the LAND where Christ shall forever dwell with His people. In thinking of such an eternal "Out-Landing" of millions from Heaven, some may think:-- "Now that's outlandish! God would never do a thing like that!" But let me tell you what God's Holy People, and God Himself, think about allowing the wicked, impenitent, and "Outlandish Has-Beens" of earth to enter into the Holy City:-- "NOW THAT'S OUTLANDISH!" And such shall never be.

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09 -- THE UNSEEN, BIG DOOR IN OUR NATIONAL WALL OF SECURITY

"And he brought me to the door of the court; and when I looked, behold a hole in the wall. Then said he unto me, Son of man, dig now in the wall: and when I had digged in the wall, behold A DOOR." (Ezekiel 8:7-8).
INTRODUCTION

A wall surrounded the temple court. There was "a small hole" in that wall. The hole was so small that the prophet could not see clearly through it. God told him to dig into the wall and enlarge the hole so that he could see what was behind it:-- A DOOR -- A BIG DOOR! It was not a tiny hole too small to go through, or see through. In comparison with the little hole, it was huge, and IT WAS THIS BIG DOOR, AND THAT WHICH WAS BEHIND IT, THAT WAS THE BIG, BUT HIDDEN PROBLEM!

Likewise, there is "a small, visible hole" in the wall of security surrounding the United States, while the real problem is "THE BIG, UNSEEN DOOR IN OUR NATIONAL WALL." Hour after hour, day after day, year after year, we read, hear, and even write, about those elements in the world outside of our nation which threaten us -- as if THEY are the BIG DOOR in our U.S. Wall through which our National Security and National Integrity is threatened -- when, in fact, these perceived things are only parts of the small, visible hole through our wall of National Security.

Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, and hundreds of their ilk, spend hours each week day, commenting upon, and warning against, these perceived things. And, such people as Duane V. Maxey, and many other political conservatives, have also written many articles and sent many emails warning against these things which really constitute only the small hole in our national security and integrity.

Unlike Limbaugh, Hannity, and their ilk, some of us HAVE dug open the little hole so as to see the BIG, BUT INVISIBLE DOOR, through which our nation is most threatened. And, IT IS THIS BIG DOOR THAT MUST BE SEEN, REMOVED, AND ITS BREACH WALLED SHUT -- if our nation is to survive! Indeed, if that which creates this Big Door were removed, and its breach walled shut, our National Security would be invulnerable to that which threatens us from without.

Don't misunderstand me. There is nothing wrong with warning about those things from without which constitute the little, perceived hole. But, were there no Unseen, Big Door behind that little hole, it would be easy to cement that little hole shut and our nation could easily be made safe.

However, Limbaugh, who advertises himself as "The Doctor of Democracy," is very obviously "blind as a bat" about this Big, Invisible Door. Sean Hannity is also quite totally unaware of it. Indeed, it is clear to any truly born again Christian that especially Limbaugh and his ilk continually make themselves part of that which creates of the Big Door, while incessantly warning against those things which comprise nothing more than the small hole. Far from really being "The Doctor of
Democracy," Limbaugh is actually, and daily, helping spread the disease which has created the Big Door through which America is threatened!

CHRISTIANS NEED TO SEE THIS! Am I against Limbaugh warning about "little hole" issues? No. Do I think that Christian Conservatives should not also frequently warn against these "small hole" matters? No. There IS a need to warn about these things. But, Christians should be aware that these things do not constitute The Big Door, and their main awareness and their greatest warnings must be against that which creates and constitutes that MASSIVE, HIDDEN BREACH! Limbaugh hasn't seen it. Hannity hasn't seen it. Hundreds of other Conservative Talk Show Hosts haven't seen it. Fox News, which says, "We Report, You Decide," hasn't seen it. It seems quite clear to me that President Bush hasn't seen it -- or if so, only vaguely. Dick Cheney hasn't seen it. Donald Rumsfeld hasn't seen it. Most of our Conservative Senators (if there be such) and Conservative Representatives have not seen it. And, most of the millions of U.S. Citizens have not seen it! If those in Christian, Internet Action groups, like Grassfire.net have seen it, they still focus more on Small Hole issues.

Do YOU see the BIG, INVISIBLE DOOR versus the small, visible hole?

First, let us notice some parts of "The Small, Visible Hole" -- those things which really constitute only a tiny aperture in the wall of our National Security -- versus -- The Big Door and that through which shall come the overthrow of the United States, or any other nation.

* * * * * *

I. PARTS OF THE SMALL, VISIBLE HOLE

A. -- AL QAEDA, and Militant Muslims. Yes, this insidious enemy of the United States did pierce through the wall of our national security, down the Twin Towers in NYC, greatly damage our Pentagon, and snuff out several thousand American lives on September 11, 2001 -- and this day, like December 7, 1941 is as Franklin Delano Roosevelt stated, "a day that shall live in infamy"! Nevertheless, Al Qaeda, and the millions of Militant Muslims around the world are only a part of the small, visible hole in the wall of our national security! Is that so!? Yes, it is -- all arguments to the contrary not withstanding. Versus that which threatens us through The Big Door, this threat pales in comparison.

B. ILLEGAL ALIENS, from Mexico, South America, and other countries. This has been one of the "Small, Visible Hole" threats about which I, myself, have often vehemently warned. Our southern border IS so porous that it is pathetic, and tee-totally sickening! El Presidente, Jorge Bush, quite obviously wants it this way -- as do many unscrupulous politicians in the Republican and Democratic parties -- as do greedy businessmen who falsely claim that they cannot do business without illegal-alien workers. Millions of "Wet-Backs" now parade with impunity, knowing that
while unscrupulous politicians and greedy businessmen want votes and dollars more than law enforcement, they can do so! Still, everything about this whole matter really constitutes only that which pertains to the "Small, Visible Hole," and NOT "THE BIG DOOR."

C. NUCLEAR AND MILITARY THREATS, like those from Russia, China, North Korea, Iran, and other rogue nations who would love to see the U.S. nuked into nothingness. Yes, we should deplore the piercing of the wall of security around the secrets pertaining to our nuclear weaponry, so that these hostile nations can steal them, develop nuclear war-heads, and threaten us. And, I suspect that there was a great betrayal of those secrets into the hands of China and others during the administration of President Playboy Bill. By the way, Romans 13:7 says we should give "honor to whom honor is due," and I do not feel that I owe this man any honor! However, nothing that pertains to the nuclear threat against the U.S. is really part of "The Big Door" through which are nation may be destroyed. In reality, it is only part of the "Small, Visible Hole."

D. VIRILE PLAGUES LIKE WEST NILE, BIRD FLU, MAD COW, AND OTHERS -- These things know no bounds, and indeed they can enter the U.S. and any other nation, despite the most valiant efforts to keep them out. Yes, microscopic viruses are very tiny, but can slay millions -- but, in fact, they constitute nothing more than "Small, Visible Hole" things threatening our land.

E. LIBERAL, SOCIALISTIC POLITICIANS are puny, little pip-squeaks who think they make the world go 'round -- and, there is something to be both hated and feared about them and their policies -- but, their big notions, motions, and commotions, really only make up part of the small, visible hole threatening America. They would love to retake control of the House and Senate, and if G.W. doesn't get his head screwed on straight about illegal immigration, they may do so. But they are only part of the small hole in the wall.

F. ENVIRONMENTALISTS -- These fruitcakes think themselves to be "the saviors of the world," which planet, in their blinded minds is man's only dwelling place. They write off "The New Earth" as just another Biblical Fairy tale, and busy themselves protecting our eco-system at the expense of tax-paying Americans who are forced to pay higher prices for gasoline and many other goods because of their insane notions, ambitions, and legislated restrictions. The Kyoto treaty on global warming is an example of the latter. But these would-be world saviors are doing more to destroy the world's economy and safety than they are to preserve it. Still, these self-appointed environmental policemen are only part of the small hole in our national wall.

I could list others, but here I forbear concerning things which make up part of the "Small, Visible Hole" in America’s National Wall of Security.

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II. THE BIG, INVISIBLE DOOR -- BEHIND THE SMALL, VISIBLE HOLE

What is this BIG DOOR? It is SIN WITHIN! Let me present more of the context from Ezekiel, Chapter 8.

"And he brought me to the door of the court; and when I looked, behold A HOLE in the wall. Then said he unto me, Son of man, dig now in the wall: and when I had digged in the wall, behold A DOOR. And he said unto me, Go in, and behold the wicked abominations that they do here. So I went in and saw; and behold every form of creeping things, and abominable beasts, and all the idols of the house of Israel, pourtrayed upon the wall round about" (Ezek. 8:7-10).

After digging open the small, visible hole, Ezekiel saw the Big, previously Invisible Door -- a door created by the sins and abominations of Israel BEHIND THE WALL, WITHIN THE TEMPLE!

It is SIN WITHIN AMERICA and SIN WITHIN THE HUMAN HEART that is creating the Big Door through which our national destruction shall come -- unless it is removed, and replaced with that which has cast out sin and sealed out sin!

While Rush Limbaugh boasts of himself as "The Doctor of Democracy" he often uses vile and suggestive words and language. In so doing -- obviously unknown to his unregenerate and carnal mind -- he is helping create The Big Door -- that massive spiritual breach through which Divine Judgment will destroy our nation! While tuned into a Sean Hannity program one day, he had a female vocalist sing. She said she was proud to be a Republican, and was unashamed as an American singer to associate with Hannity and Conservative Republicans politically. Unfortunately, she was also unashamed to use some very filthy words in the song she belted out after she said that. Unless I heard wrongly, she used the "F" word in that song several times!

Rush Limbaugh and Sean Hannity are Insanity spiritually! They know absolutely NOTHING about what is really threatening America. Hannity seems to manifest a modicum of morality -- more than "Rush Who Cannot Blush" Limbaugh - - but neither of them has the spiritual sight necessary to see THE BIG DOOR -- IT IS INVISIBLE TO THEM, because they are natural men, whose unregenerate and carnal minds blinded to it.

Spiritual filthiness within our nation, and within the hearts of Americans, creates the Big, Invisible Door that opens our nation -- not to the destruction of men, but to the destruction God through our enemies or by direct judgment upon us! And this fact is true in every other nation as well.

Vile and rampant Homosexuality, widespread sexual impurity and debauchery, public nudity, filthy speech, slaying of the unborn, anti-Christian
legislation, and every other hell-bent, God-enraging sin within America has already created that Huge Door through which Divine Judgment shall soon fall upon our nation, unless that Invisible Door is removed, the sins that created it are cast out, and our national wall is sealed up against such.

It is of the utmost folly for Limbaugh, Hannity, and their ilk to spend three hours daily, five days per week preaching against "Small, Visible Hole" matters while using vile, suggestive language themselves, or while allowing it to be used on their programs! In so doing, they actually help create and OPEN THE BIG, INVISIBLE DOOR OF OUR NATIONAL DESTRUCTION!

The Bible does not say the U.S. "shall be turned into hell, and all of the nations who" are threatened by Al Qaeda, by Illegal Aliens, by Nuclear Bombs, or by any of the other "Small Hole" things I have mentioned.

The Bible says:-- "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God" (Psalm 9:17).

The Bible does not say "Conservatism exalteth a nation, but Liberal Democrats and Illegal Aliens are a reproach to any people."

It does say:-- "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 14:34).

After Ezekiel saw The Big, Previously Invisible, Door and all of the sin that was behind it on the inside of the wall, God said to him:

"Hast thou seen this, O son of man? Is it a light thing to the house of Judah that they commit the abominations which they commit here? for they have filled the land with violence, and have returned to provoke me to anger: and, lo, they put the branch to their nose. Therefore will I also deal in fury: mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: and though they cry in mine ears with a loud voice, yet will I not hear them"(Ezekiel 8:17-18).

They put a sweet-smelling "branch to their nose" while committing their filthy deeds which were a stench in God's nostrils. Perfumed perversion is still putrid to God's smell! Legislated abortion is still abomination and murder in God's eyes!

Indeed it IS a threat from without that Americans must fear! -- the threat of Divine Judgment from God, Who has been largely cast out of the U.S.! -- and that judgment will come through THE BIG, DOOR WHICH IS NOW SO TOTALLY INVISIBLE to millions in our nation -- even to millions of Political Conservatives who are too blinded by sin to see it! Selah.

* * * * * * *
In the King James Version, Song of Solomon 4:12 describes the King's Bride thus:-- "A garden inclosed is my sister, my spouse; a spring shut up, a fountain sealed." Another translation renders it:-- "A garden walled-in is my sister, my bride; a garden shut up, a spring of water stopped" (Song of Sol. 4:12, BBE).

Christ's true Bride is modest in her public appearance. She is like an enclosed garden -- like a garden hidden behind a surrounding wall that shuts its view away from all but its rightful owner.

Excluding the legitimate care of children and the sick of course, nakedness is something that God reserves exclusively to one's husband or wife. With great plainness and repetition, God drilled this into the minds of earthly Israel. Leviticus 18:7-16 is an example of that very plain and repeated truth:

18:7 The nakedness of thy father, or the nakedness of thy mother, shalt thou not uncover: she is thy mother; thou shalt not uncover her nakedness.

18:8 The nakedness of thy father's wife shalt thou not uncover: it is thy father's nakedness.

18:9 The nakedness of thy sister, the daughter of thy father, or daughter of thy mother, whether she be born at home, or born abroad, even their nakedness thou shalt not uncover.

18:10 The nakedness of thy son's daughter, or of thy daughter's daughter, even their nakedness thou shalt not uncover: for theirs is thine own nakedness.

18:11 The nakedness of thy father's wife's daughter, begotten of thy father, she is thy sister, thou shalt not uncover her nakedness.

18:12 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy father's sister: she is thy father's near kinswoman.

18:13 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy mother's sister: for she is thy mother's near kinswoman.

18:14 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy father's brother, thou shalt not approach to his wife: she is thine aunt.

18:15 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy daughter in law: she is thy son's wife; thou shalt not uncover her nakedness.

18:16 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy brother's wife: it is thy brother's nakedness.
Do I hear someone say, "Well, I don't like that sort of plain talk! Besides, that is Old Testament stuff, and we Christians today are "not under the Law"!

Away with such nonsense! Just how do such professing Christians, in their very immodest attire, think they appear in the eyes of Him who is pictured thus in the midst of the Church?:-- "And in the midst of the seven candlesticks One like unto the Son of man, CLOTHED WITH A GARMENT DOWN TO THE FOOT, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle" (Revelation 1:13).

Do you think that the Christ who is "clothed with a garment down to His feet" doesn't CARE when professing Christians parade around in clothes which expose arms, legs and most of their torsos! Don't you dare think so!

And, the apostle Paul says that the earnest desire of God's true people is "not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon..." (2 Cor. 5:4). Yes, it is true that he speaks here of being unclothed "from the body" rather than being unclothed while still "in the body." However, his words still DO "TELL IT LIKE IT IS" with true Christians still in the body:-- they have no desire to "be immodestly unclothed" in public, but rather to "be clothed upon" when in public.

The inward desire to avoid public immodesty is placed into the heart of every born-again Christian -- whether male or female. Yes, it may take a little while for some, but it won't be too long after any man or woman is really saved before the Spirit will begin speak to them about this matter, and if they have the right examples set before them in the Church, and the proper admonitions from the Pulpit, such newly saved converts will begin to cover their nakedness in public and manifest in their outward dress the modesty placed in their hearts by Christ.

But while it is both sinful and stupid for either sex to expose their nakedness in public, I wish to emphasize in this article that it is particularly insane for women to do so. 2 Timothy 3:6 speaks of those who "creep into houses, and lead captive SILLY WOMEN laden with sins, led away with divers lusts." And, ONE OF THE SILLIEST THINGS WOMEN CAN DO IS EXPOSE THEIR NAKEDNESS!

Why so? Because women who stir up lustful passions in the minds of wicked men set in motion those forces which destroy men's respect for women and which eventually destroy women themselves, along with little girls and even tiny, female infants!

IT IS UTTERLY INSANE FOR WOMEN TO DENY THAT THEIR PUBLIC NUDITY TODAY IS DIRECTLY CONNECTED WITH THE MASSIVE INCREASE IN RAPES AND MURDERS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS! THESE TWO EVILS ARE DIRECTLY CONNECTED!
I just turned 69 years old the other day, and I can tell you most certainly that as women have increasingly exposed their nakedness, violence against females of all ages has increased right along with it! The picture at the top of this article shows the skirt-lengths on the girls in our Bible Missionary Institute Choir in 1962. [BTW, Yours Truly is third from the left in the back row.] Perfectly worldly girls in my 1955 High School Graduating Class in Payette, Idaho wore skirts of the same length!

Then came the election of John F. Kennedy in 1960, and First Lady (?) Jacqueline Lee Bouvier Kennedy, was wearing her skirts just above the knee. Oh yes, female hemlines had been higher than that before -- in "The Roaring Twenties" -- but never did they creep as high as they were to go thereafter -- until today "SILLY WOMEN" brazenly uncover all, or nearly all of their bodies in public, and often what is covered is not really hidden, the fit of their garments being so tight that everything beneath is plainly revealed!

And, right along with this increased exposure of the female body have come increased attacks and murders of females.

Women cannot expose their nakedness in public without suffering the hideous and gruesome consequences of it. Females are "the weaker sex," and when "SILLY WOMEN" excite lust in the minds of men they invite sexual assault, rape, and murder upon themselves and all other females -- often today, even tiny little, infant girls!

The apostle Paul exhorted young married women "to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, CHASTE, KEEPERS AT HOME.. that the word of God be not blasphemed" (Titus 2:4-5). Instead, today we have UNCHASTE AND UNCOVERED WOMEN PARADING THEMSELVES IN PUBLIC IN STATES OF UNDRESS THAT OUGHT TO BE RESERVED FOR THE EYES OF THEIR HUSBANDS ALONE -- AND THAT IN COMPLETE PRIVACY "AT HOME"!

Twice, through the prophet Jeremiah, God spoke of those who "were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush," and twice He pronounced their awful fate: "therefore they shall fall among them that fall" (Jeremiah 6:15; 8:12).

SILLY, SILLY WOMEN today cannot blush, but they CAN and DO often FALL! -- raped and murdered, their bodies discarded in some clump of brush, or dismembered and stuffed in some garbage dumpster!

They expose their nakedness in public. They let their nakedness be plastered on billboards and published in filthy men's magazines and in nasty check-stand publications. They even go on the radio, and with seductive voices tell men how to improve their sexual performance!

Literally millions of men are being driven mad sexually today by such forms of female seduction -- to the point that many of them have begun think almost every
female on earth is an inviting target for their animalistic assaults! And every silly little ninny who parades herself around nearly nude contributes to the sexual madness of such fallen men today! Many young females today may think it's "fun" and "funny" to turn a man on, but IT'S NO LIGHT AND LAUGHING MATTER WHEN THE IGNITION OF MEN'S FIERY AND MADDENNED LUST FIRST RAPES AND THEN KILLS THOUSANDS OF FEMALES EVERY YEAR!

Women, who are weaker than men, are insanely silly to stir up that which excites millions of men to attack them. One who stirs up a swarm of bees is bound to be stung! Women who stir up men's passion are bound to be assaulted, and often murdered! How utterly mindless it is of them to think otherwise.

Proverbs 6:27-28 asks, "Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned?"

Let me ask: Can women play with the fire in men's passion and not suffer the awful consequences of it! No way! NO WAY, SILLY WOMEN -- NO WAY!!!

Once when I was five years old I played with fire. I took a metal can of kerosene out to where a fire was burning behind the parsonage in DeSmet, South Dakota where papa was pastoring the Church of the Nazarene. As I poured some of that explosive kerosene on the fire, the flames suddenly burst forth toward me -- and I was very fortunate that I was not badly burned or even killed! I was too young to know that this "playing with fire" was very dangerous.

Many adult women today, who ought to know better, are "playing with the fire of men's passions," and thousands of females every year are dying as a result of the ignition of that flame! SILLY, SILLY WOMEN! STOP PLAYING WITH THAT FIRE!

Oh! for a return to the times when young women dressed themselves like "a garden enclosed" and "a garden walled-in" with decency, modesty, and chastity! If such were to occur, I know beyond a doubt that it would decrease the violent crimes perpetrated upon women, girls, and tiny female infants! But so long as "silly women" go around in public naked or mostly naked, it will do no good to arrest, imprison, or execute every rapist-murderer that comes along. Millions of other men who continue to have their passions set on fire by "silly, immodest and naked women" will take their places. Only a return to modest dress by women will extinguish the female-consuming fire that has been ignited in the bestial passion of millions of men today!

That adult female who doubts this is truly a "silly woman"!

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11 -- 'TIS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS
INTRODUCTION TO "TIS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS" By Duane V. Maxey

This is a take-off on the "'Twas The Night Before Christmas." I hope that its lines are not too reflective of my own somber mood at this time, and that the little bite of sarcasm at the end of the poem is not too negative. Clement Clarke Moore's poem, "'Twas The Night Before Christmas," was FIRST PUBLISHED ON DECEMBER 23, 1823 -- 182 YEARS AGO, TODAY. My take-off on his poem speaks, not of the jollities associated with "The Night Before Christmas" and with Christmas itself, but with the sober and discordant realities thereof among vast numbers of people today. Again, I hope this take-off doesn't "put a damper" on your celebration of Christmas. The reader can note, by comparing the two poems, stanza by stanza, that I have tried to emulate the meter, and even use some of the very words of the original poem, while presenting entirely different thoughts about "The Night Before Christmas" as it often is today. -- Duane V. Maxey, December 23, 2005, (Ahwatukee) Phoenix, Arizona.

*     *     *

'TIS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS
By Duane V. Maxey
(A Take-Off On "'Twas The Night Before Christmas"
Written on December 23, 2005)

1
'Tis the night before Christmas, and those of the world,
Aren't ashamed of their insults, at Christ often hurled.
Their mockings are flung, by the millions each year,
In words of profanity, said without fear.

2
The children aren't nestled all snug in their beds,
But visions of nudity dance in their heads,
While watching the TV late into the night,
Absorbing such filth with the greatest delight!

3
And nearly till dawn, they continue to chatter--
In all this their parents see nothing the matter.
Then off to their beds they will go then to "crash"--
Their minds loaded full of this immoral trash!

4
Exposed to this filth, they continue to grow
More greatly attracted to things vile and low,
And ne'er to their sin-blinded eyes doth appear
The Truths of the Bible, one time in the year!
5
With a little old needle, so lively and quick,
An injection of drugs in their bodies they stick.
More cocaine, or heroine into the vein,
More doped they become until often insane!

6
Now dasher, now dancer, now prancer or vixen,
More crazy they act, as more dope they are fixin'!
At the peak of their "trip" they may break through a wall!
Then dash away! dash away! dash away all!

7
As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
So often, in "mid-trip" these young children die,
But, e'en when they're gone, their hard parents don't rue
The things they allowed their small children to do!

8
And then, in a twinkling, they'll oft "hit the roof"
When told they're to blame -- with the greatest of proof!
They'll blame it on others -- or even assault,
The ones who suggest that it might be THEIR FAULT!

9
They smell of sweet myrrh from their head to their foot,
But their souls are all tarnished with ashes and soot.
Their bundle of toys to the stores they take back,
Their children are dead from the cocaine or crack.

10
The stars -- how they twinkled! but they were not merry!--
At Christmas they drive to the cold cemetery!
And there as the chill winter winds wildly blow,
They bury their children amidst the white snow.

11
At others they snipe and they gnash with their teeth,
At the graves of their children, adorned with a wreath.
But the seeds that THEY sowed in their children, so young,
Are now reaped in the sorrows with which they are stung!

12
He is Santa, in red, a right jolly old elf,
But none laugh when they see him, in spite of his pelf!
The wink of his eye, and the twist of his head,
Bring no cheer at all, for their children are dead!

13
They speak not a word, but go straight to their work,
No joy now at Christmas, they turn with a jerk!
And checking their stocks in the market they chose,
They hope to discover that last night they rose.

14
And finding they have, they will then give a whistle,
Then away they will fly like the down of a thistle.
We can hear them exclaim, 'ere they drive out of sight,
"Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"

*     *     *     *     *     *     *     *

12 -- IT SHOULD BE JUST AMONG AND NOT AMONGST!

Why say it "amongst" and not just "among",
Thus adding that "st" to twist-up up my tongue"?
And why say it "whilst" and not just plain "while"?
From whence comes this "st" that causes me trial?

And when the word "blessed" is oft changed to "blest"
This shortening does not to me seem the best.
I understand "st" in such words as a "blast"
But sometimes that "st" just leaves me aghast!

What is it that calls for that "s" and that "t"?
Has it been derived from some high pedigree?
That forces a person to twist up his tongue,
To say it "amongst" and not simply "among"?

And when they write "whilst" instead of just "while",
Why do some still use this old "st"-ish style?
And why yet, today, is this usage retained,
And deeply within some men's minds still engrained?

Yes, "blessed" sounds just quite the same as does "blest"--
When sounds of both spellings are put to the test,
And there are times, truly, when "s" linked with "t"
Are used quite correctly, -- with this I agree.

But please leave them off of "among" and plain "while"!
Why use this archaic and difficult style
That's foreign to Westerners' minds and their tongue?
We'd rather just say it as "while" and "among"!

I stuh.. stuh.. stuh... stutter enough as it is!
At spitting out words I am really a whiz!
So, if you'll just spell it as "while" and "among",
I'll "say it" not "spray it" with my tangled tongue!

*   *   *

End Of This Nonsense!

*   *   *   *   *   *   *   *

13 -- 47 BURMA SHAVE SIGN SLOGANS

Before I present the 47 Burma Shave sign slogans one might have seen back in '47, let me say the following, "Readers, I dare say most of you have never heard of Macadamized roads." Well, back when I was a boy, that term was still occasionally used -- a name given to roads with black-top paving, versus gravel or dirt roads. "The great advance in nineteenth century road building was the invention of Scottish engineer John McCadam who perfected the technique of a crowned road with a finely packed surface. The twentieth century would see two major developments in road building -- the increasing use of petroleum products as a binder or glue to hold together sand or gravel for a road surface and the widespread usage of concrete for road surfaces. The petroleum-based binder was a refinement of McCadam's design which is the origin of the now generic term "macadam" to refer to asphalted roads" (From an Online site).

I'm now 69 years old -- old enough to remember when there were no Freeways crossing our nation, and two-way highways, such as old Route 66, were about the only highways there were, save for several turnpikes like the Pennsylvania Turnpike. Some of the following slogans or jingles on Burma Shave signs reflect the fact that they refer to the old two-way highways. Others might still apply very well, even on today's Freeways -- but, these amusing old Burma Shave signs are seldom, if ever seen today. For those of you who would like to take a little mental trip down nostalgia lane (or should I say, Old Route 66), and for others who have never seen Burma Shave signs, I present the following collection. I have divided the slogans or jingles into the portions that appeared on succeeding signs, which were spaced a short distance apart along the old highways. Often "the clincher" was seen on the last sign. Hope you enjoy them. -- Duane V. Maxey, Chandler, Arizona, June 29, 2006.

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47 BURMA SHAVE SIGN SLOGANS
01 -- There's Hardly A Man -- That's Now Alive -- Who Passed On Hills -- A Seventy-five -- Burma Shave.

02 -- Keep well to the right -- Of the on-coming car -- Get your close shaves -- From the half pound jar -- Burma Shave.

03 -- His week-old beard -- So masked his face -- His bull dog chased him -- Off the place -- Burma Shave.

04 -- Remember this -- If you'd be spared -- Trains don't whistle -- Because they're scared -- Burma Shave.

05 -- Although we've sold -- Six million others -- We still can't sell -- Those Cough drop Brothers (the bearded Smith Brothers -- DVM) -- Burma Shave.

06 -- Beneath this stone -- Lies Elmer Gush -- Tickled to death -- By his shaving brush -- Burma Shave.

07 -- Following Too Close -- Was A Lot Of Bunk -- Till They Pulled Him From -- Someone's Trunk -- Burma Shave.

08 -- They missed the turn -- Car was whizz'n -- The fault was hers -- The funeral his'n -- Burma Shave.

09 -- He played a sax -- Had no B.O. -- But his whiskers scratched -- So she let him go -- Burma Shave.

10 -- You can't reach 80 -- Hale and hearty -- By driving 80 -- Home from the party -- Burma Shave.

11 -- Riot In Drug Store -- Calling All Cars -- 100 Customers -- 99 Jars -- Burma Shave.

12 -- You Can Beat -- A Mile A Minute -- But There Ain't -- No Future In It! -- Burma Shave.

13 -- Is He Lonesome -- Or Just Blind -- That Guy Who Drives -- So Close Behind -- Burma Shave.

14 -- It Would Be More Fun -- To Go By Air -- But We Can't Hang -- These Signs Up There -- Burma Shave.

15 -- If You Drive -- While You're Drunk -- Carry Your Coffin -- In Your Trunk -- Burma Shave.
16 -- She Kissed The Hairbrush -- By Mistake -- She Thought It Was -- Her Husband Jake -- Burma Shave.

17 -- Have Pity On -- The Mighty Caesars -- They Pulled their Whiskers -- Out With Tweezers -- Burma Shave.

18 -- There, There, my Child -- Be Still, Hush Hush -- That's Not A Bear -- It's A Shaving Brush -- Burma Shave.

19 -- Around The Corner -- Lickety Split -- Beautiful Car -- Wasn't It? -- Burma Shave.

20 -- Twinkle, Twinkle -- One Eyed Car -- How I Wonder -- Where You Are -- Burma Shave.

21 -- At School Crossings -- Heed Instructions -- Protect Our Little -- Tax Deductions -- Burma Shave.

22 -- Her Chariot Raced -- At 90 Per -- They Hauled Away -- What Had Ben Hur -- Burma Shave.

23 -- Drinking drivers -- Enhance their chance -- To highball home -- In an ambulance -- Burma Shave.

24 -- Fuzzy Wuzzie Was A Bear -- Fuzzy Wuzzie Had No Hair -- So Fuzzy Wuzzie Wasn't Fuzzie Wuzzie? -- Burma Shave. (This one was also a little rhyme that parents used to quote to their children. -- DVM)

25 -- Don't Stick Your Elbow -- Out Too Far -- It Might Go Home -- In Another Car -- Burma Shave.

26 -- Do Not Pass -- On Curve Or Hill -- If The Cops Don't Catch You -- The Morticians Will -- Burma Shave.

27 -- Wild Men Pulled -- Their Whiskers Out -- That's What Made Them -- Wild, No Doubt -- Burma Shave.

28 -- The Monkey Took -- One Look At Jim -- And Threw The Peanuts -- Back At Him -- Burma Shave.


30 -- He Saw The Train -- He Tried To Duck It -- Kicked First The Gas -- And Then The Bucket -- Burma Shave.
31 -- He Lit a Match -- To Check The Tank -- That's Why They Call Him -- Skinless Frank -- Burma Shave.

32 -- Angels Who Guard You -- When You Drive -- Usually Retire -- At 65 -- Burma Shave.

33 -- Don't Try Passing -- On A Slope -- Unless You Have -- A Periscope -- Burma Shave.

34 -- Brother Speeders -- Let's Rehearse -- All Together -- Good Morning, Nurse -- Burma Shave.

35 -- Thirty days -- Hath September -- April, June -- And the speed offender -- Burma Shave.

36 -- Statistics prove -- Near and far -- That folks who -- Drive like crazy -- Are! -- Burma Shave.

37 -- Drinking Drivers -- Nothing Worse -- He Put The Quart -- Before the Hearse -- Burma Shave.

38 -- Shaving Brushes -- You'll Soon See'em -- On The Shelf -- In Some Museum -- Burma Shave. (I think you already do! -- DVM)

39 -- Car in Ditch -- Driver In Tree -- Moon Was Full -- And So Was He -- Burma Shave.

40 -- Don't Lose Your Head -- To Gain A Minute -- You Need Your Head -- Your Brains Are In It -- Burma Shave.

41 -- Famous Last Words -- Bright Lights That Shine -- If You Won't Dim Yours -- I Won't Dim Mine -- Burma Shave.

42 -- A Peach Looks Good -- With Lots of Fuzz -- But Man's No Peach -- And Never Was -- Burma Shave.

43 -- Train Approaching -- Whistle Squealing -- Pause -- Avoid That -- Run Down Feeling -- Burma Shave.

44 -- If U Don't Know -- Whose Signs These Are -- U Can't Have Driven -- Very Far -- Burma Shave.

45 -- Ben Met Anna -- Made a Hit -- Neglected Beard -- Ben-Anna Split -- Burma Shave.

46 -- School ahead -- Take it slow -- Let the little -- Shavers grow -- Burma Shave.
47 -- His heavenly voice -- She thought divine -- Till whiskers scratched -- Sweet Adeline.

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14 -- SOME TRIVIA AND TRUTH

The following is some mental recreation. It is only presented as such, and is not recommended when your mind and time demand serious reading and thinking. So, my plea’s please read no further unless you feel that something on the light-side might untie some knots in your brain. Many of the following, nonsensical lines involve identically spelled words (or pronounced words) tied together, which have different meanings. Other lines are nothing more than tangents of my mind without any particular train of thought. If you are disgusted, just delete them all. But, who knows, reading these one-liners may light some fuse in your gray-matter that will explode into some genuinely profound and useful thoughts. Or, maybe my use of some words will send you to your dictionary and increase your vocabulary. -- Duane

One cannot subtract too from two, but it is possible to subtract to from two and to from too.

It is possible to be fourth in going forth, but not third in going fourth!

One can amble and ramble at the same time, and I suppose some folks gambol while they gamble.

If you have cumin comin' you may deal in herbs.

Clever fish can abate a bait and nibble the hook bare without getting caught!

Bad behavior by military personnel can abase a base.

Gambling concerns will abet a bet, but a wise man won't!

If a mount amount to nothing, then he was a poor judge of horses who bought it.

You can't curry curry powder, but you can curry a horse.

Hale hail can make you ail!

Often, it's easier to take apart a part than it is to put it back together.
Simply because one may adduce a duce does not mean he is a good example.

They who are trying to enter, adore a door that will open, and deplore a door that won't!

It is possible both to deduct an ad and to add a deduction.

When the children of a wealthy man who inherit a large estate are inflated with pride, we might call it an heir air of arrogance!

One bids a dew adieu when moving to the arid southwest, a la Nevada and for Arizona.

You can have a plain plane, but who ever heard of a pane pain?

He greeted the dawning donning his hunting cap, and heading for the woods.

After ordering it, a body-builder may impatiently await a weight -- via UPS.

Remembering something funny may amuse a muse.

You may appoint a point without pain, but don't expect such if you attack a tack.

If the traffic cop fined you only a penny, you'd consider that a fine fine.

There is no such thing as flour flower; just ask anybody who tried making it.

The dough is needing kneading before making bread.

Giving a scent ascent:-- what skunks do before they spray.

If your credit is good, you can get a loan alone.

A crooked lawyer will ally a lie in one's defense if he is paid enough.

All ways always have some things that need to be heeded.

Allaying a laying hen's alarm may get a farmer an egg for breakfast.

A PTA aspirant wants to get aboard a board.

A draftsman can align aline with no pain, but those who alight a light will say "ouch"! if'n that 'ere light's on fire!
On an isle an aisle can be constructed in a church where Catholics amass a mass.

Some preachers take a text and then "go from Dan to Beersheba" and everywhere in between, and yon yawn is on the face of their listeners. Those in their parish perish for lack of truth that is right to the point, and both cogently and concisely spoken!

A loud noise will often arrest a rest.

A fairy ferry won't get you across the river.

One who loves first rate things is likely to berate B-rate things.

Those who choose chews at a tobacco store cannot choose the results of their habit.

Those who are afraid not a frayed knot will loosen, aren't hanging by it over a cliff!

A three is always afore a four.

A pale pail looks better than a pale face.

You're not really destitute if you can afford a Ford these days.

It is a poor pore that will not sweat and it is a sore soar for a wounded bird.

If you can affirm a firm is honest, it is safer to do business with them.

It is never a fair affair when a married person steps out on his or her spouse.

"This is about a bout with the flu," said the man who called in sick.

During the epidemic, the flu flew everywhere, and so did your last meal.

Beers and biers are often connected, and peers on piers are sometimes seen.

Wives sometimes scold their husbands but they never thus address a dress, unless it shrunk since it was last worn!

It is wise to warn worn drivers not to fall asleep.

Bare legs are never seen on bear legs, even in the summer! -- and the world would be better off if all the human, bare legs were banished to the backwoods of
the frozen tundra in the far north with the bear legs there! Maybe then they would take cover!

He who buries berries often raises more berries than he buries.

One should apprise a prize before considering it worth having.

Never borrow a barrow you don't return.

You will abash a bash if you reprove its wild party-goers.

He who bats bats may get the SPCA on his case!

It is wise to pay attention when one beats beets -- in either a kitchen, or on a drum. Failure to do so may get you a red face in either instance.

After the pirates commandeered the baby-clothing vessel, they were surprised to learn they had nothing but bootie booty.

If a bee be near, then beware, and he who flees fleas is wise.

I have never seen a beech beach, but I've heard of beech-nuts and nuts on beaches.

If the number before be four, then the number thereafter is five.

If what a fan beholds be holds, then he must be at a wrestling match.

Those who belittle be little.

Ropes that be long belong in tall belfries.

Don't be beset, be set!

There's no such thing as a better better unless he quits gambling!

There were two types of rulers when I went to school as a boy, one of them being the teachers, and when the rules were broken, sometimes the rulers' rulers were applied to something besides paper!

It is impossible to say bye by saying hello, and it is impossible to buy by selling.

The race-bike dealer said, "By cycles bicycles are bought."

More often than not, a burrough burrow is for a pipe and not a gopher.
And, why doesn't a burro burrow, instead of a prairie-dog? and why does a rooster crow and a crow caw? -- and, why to we drive on parkways and park on driveways?

Will a bluff bluff? No, but they are more dangerous to approach than a boastful bluffer.

The mountain goat ignored the "Danger, High Cliff" sign. He thought it was just a bluff.

In order for a man to shave, he must be a razor raiser. Put that down for a fact.

Some who brush brush discover later that it is poison ivy!

Many a border boarder should go back to Mexico!

I'd rather see an ill eagle get well than to see an illegal get welfare!

If a brake break, you're gonna have a hard time stoppin' without a poppin'!

Bridal bridles may fit well into Muslim religion, but they have no place in Christianity!

Who wants to ride in a buggy buggy? Answer: Any mister with a blister who has ten more miles to walk.

A sea-side dock is like a school-ground at recess: you see there lots of buoys and gulls.

No matter how exasperating Bill Gate's Windows program is, one must not be a cursor curser! -- even when your work is arrested and the program closes after displaying a dialogue box telling you that you did something illegal -- and all you did was stare at the screen! :O(

When asked about my ID at checkstands, sometimes I used to say, "Like the man said when he sat in the electric chair: EVERYTHING IS CURRENT!" Presently, however, it has been a long time since I used that play on the word, "current". But that is not so shocking since I like Dorothea to write the checks. ;o)

Have you heard about the cattleman who had all the tails docked off of his cattle? and he had to wholesale them because he couldn't re-tail them! ;O)

If a curate cure it, he has to use the right spiritual medicine.
Can a scribe ascribe? Yes, but if a scribe ascribe to himself what somebody else wrote he's a plagiarist.

How is it that Egg-heads often speak of cubic feet?

A crosswalk has a right to be displeased. You wouldn't like it if people walked on you every day either!

An oxymoron is less contradictory than a Oxford moron.

Will a Count account for himself? Yes, and someday every King will also.

A fakir faker is wealthy instead of poor.

It is a foul fowl if it has bird flu!

I'd rather see a flie die than a fly fly -- onto my food!

That which makes a Frenchman bitter is a Gaul gall.

When the guest guessed wrongly about his host's name, he was ushered to the door!

Your nose knows when apple-pie is baking in the oven.

After you say "Hi" hie on to work, or you'll be late!

It is an high "Hi" when you greet someone on a plane at 30,000 feet.

An idle idol has no power to move itself, but a movie idol moves many to emulate his or her evil.

If there be such a thing as an ant aunt, then there must be ant uncles too.

If a man lose his right arm then he has only the left left, and if he lose his left, then he has only his right, right?

"Sea ya later!" said the tide as it waved good-bye to the beach.

Too often the merry marry and divorce after the party is over!

Many a mined mind yields nothing worth the digging.

A prayer missal missile never reaches the heavenly target. In fact, it never lifts off of the launch pad!
A meter meeter:-- Your car when it jumps the curb!

A hoarse horse is less likely to whinny! -- but Look Out! he may buck with that sore throat!

A knit nit -- Same thing as a bug in a rug!

Put a figure on ice if you want a numb-er number.

Plucking a goose will bring down down.

There is podium odium, but little sodium chloride from a bitter preacher.

The holed-up hold-up man feared to show his face after he saw it at the Post Office.

The old maid made good her promise to marry the old bachelor, and "the little dog laughed to see such a sight when the dish ran away with the spoon!" ;o)

A woman had four husbands: the first a banker, the second a theater man, the third a preacher, and the fourth a mortician. It was "one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go."

One won her first. Blessed are the merciful, but often cursed are the mercenary, for they shall often obtain a spouse in the house who wants their money more than their companionship!

Our hour may be the life-time of a gnat, but our life-time is but the fleeting, twinkling of an eye to the High and Lofty one that inhabiteth eternity.

To those near 70 and beyond, the past passed by so quickly, and the future shall be gone even more rapidly. Children and Young people, don't mistakenly think that 70 years is a long time. Those years fly by like a jet crossing the sky -- far faster than you now imagine!

The years that be long belong to children alone.

The quick quick will reach the dead end sooner than they think -- especially the helmetless quick (alive) who are quick on motorcycles with more horse-power than horse-sense!

It is a rank rank in the army that is not tidy and clean.

They decided it was a real reel when they grew dizzy and fell over!
The part a wheel plays is the roll role; that's why many "big wheels" who think they are the motionless-hub are replaced by a spare who will do the job.

A saw-horse -- the past tense of a sea-horse.

Wave good-bye to graduation if your grades are below C-level.

Many a seen scene will linger in the memory for years, long after most words are forgotten.

A cereal serial number? Well, perhaps if General Mills demands it.

This side sighed after that side won the spelling-bee.

What sort sort through used clothing in second-hand stores? Preachers and their families you don't support well enough!

The stationary stationery sat untouched for years -- after email began to fly around the globe.

The state state worsened after the liberal was elected governor.

His steak stake was high in the stockmarket -- the livestock market, that is.

There was a very straight strait in the fiord -- too straight and strait for the drunken sea captain to navigate.

The feet feat may involve quite a race, but a toe tow is harder to pull off.

A sun-tanning can become painful, and so can a son-tanning! I have experienced both! ;o)

Sin-tax syntax may sound ever so innocuous and delightful, but when that tax is paid, it is never pleasant.

If one steal steel -- or anything else -- a Copper will catch him, either in this world, or in the world to come.

The taut taught are seen in every desk during the final exam!

The Maxey Taxi is parked in our garage. Don't call! You won't like our rates. Besides, right now our Maxey Taxi really is in the garage -- the Subaru garage, waiting for new front brake-shoes and a new fuel pump to be installed.
The moose most seldom seen is the "vamoose" who skips out on his bills. Even some preachers have joined that "Vamoose Lodge"! It is a secret order -- so secret that their lodge is very hard to find.

Many a Radio Talk-Show Host always speaks in a vane vein that's profane.

The vet vet the manuscript on animal care thoroughly, lest malpractice put him in the dog-house.

One vise vice is putting the squeeze on too tightly! Another is letting go suddenly when you least expect it, and dropping that heavy piece of metal on your toe!

Many an overworked Middle-Class American taxpayer gets paid weakly weekly.

It is a well well whose waters are abundant, sparkling and healthy and refreshing. Unfortunately, many a church today is a sick well whose characteristics are exactly the opposite.

That yon yawn is being formed by the contorted jaws of a listless, pastured horse, bored in his fenced in confinement -- or is it being formed by the jaws of a someone in your congregation at church who is about to fall asleep as the preacher drones on till late-thirty.

Yakima -- a tribe named after the chief's vociferous mother.

Those who think by the inch and talk by the yard are liable to be kicked by the foot.

The ship's crews cruise the beautiful Caribbean and on those seas seize the opportunity to fleece the passengers of as much money as they can.

You know, "You know" is a tired, old expression, often repetitively used every few seconds when the speaker has a very limited vocabulary. You know what I mean?

Zee zee is zee last letter in zee alphabet. -- That's all folks! Orange you glad there's no more!

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THE END