

"And the dragon...went to make war with the remnant...which keep the commandments of God, and have...

THE TESTIMONY

...of Jesus Christ." Revelation 12:17

— VERSE OF THE MONTH —

"Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren...For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted." Heb. 2:17-18

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CRADLED

In the sea salt of the moment, with tears bursting from my eyes,
As my messy feels so broken and my wearied heart just cries;
As I utter in confusion ugly scars begin to show,
Amidst the chaos come a whisper, "Oh, My dearest child, I KNOW!

I know the hurt that gathers darkly within that precious heart of yours.
I know you feel defective, but My child, you are **ADORED!**
I know every inch of pain from first breath until the last,
I know all the waves of heartache that seem to shatter just like glass.

Splintering pieces all directions, damaging both here and there,
Suffering feels so deep and wounding filling up your every prayer.
As the fog seems just to linger, you may grip hard upon my hand,
As you sit so gently cradled there is nothing to withstand!

For as your heart becomes so heavy that you feel you just might tip,
My palm adjusts to steady onward for you are always in My grip.
There is nothing, nothing, **NOTHING** that is far too big for Me.
Every weight is counter balanced; all the dark begins to flee.

All you ever have to do is simply rest and trust my heart.
Your pieces might be broken but they'll **NEVER** fall apart!"

Kara Boone

THE TESTIMONY

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“Doth not even
nature
itself teach
you...?”

**I Corinthians
11:14**

EDITORIAL

**LESSONS FROM
THE SUNFLOWER**

Anyone who has tried growing plants from seeds knows that the sprouts, and very young plants, always lean toward the sunlight. If you turn them to face the opposite direction, they will again lean toward the sunlight. Various plants, and to a smaller extent humans, exhibit this phenomenon known as heliotropism. It is often called solar-tracking, in which the leaves of a plant face the sun to absorb as much radiation as possible when needed, but then turn to avoid the sunlight in times of drought or intense heat.

One well-known heliotropic plant is the sunflower. Those who have watched fields of sunflowers as they grow, know that when the plants are young, the flower heads face east in the morning, follow the sun throughout the day, and at night return to an east-facing direction. As the plant matures, the stem stiffens, limiting its movement, and the flower head settles into a fixed direction of facing east. Scientists believe that when facing this direction, the greater warmth and light from the rising sun attracts more bees in the morning resulting in better pollination.

As we look at the lessons we can glean from the sunflower, we want to consider three idioms: “lean toward,” “bent to,” and “given to.” These stages seem to appear in the life of the sunflower as they grow, and also in our human lives as we mature. They are also ex-

pressed in this quote, often attributed to Stephen Covey: “Sow a thought, reap an action; sow an action, reap a habit; sow a habit, reap a character; sow a character, reap a destiny.”

A young and tender plant is more flexible and can be trained to grow in a certain direction. Likewise, children need to be trained to love and obey their parents and the Lord. Children begin life having certain tendencies and “lean toward” doing certain things or feeling a certain way. We, as parents and grandparents, can help guide them into “leaning toward” the right things. Young people who have not accepted Christ as their Savior may “lean toward” Him, but have not committed to following and obeying Him. We may “lean toward” certain ideas, beliefs, or ways, and if we realize they are not the best for us, we can change direction easier while we are in that young, flexible stage of life. The idiom “lean toward” means to have a slight preference for, or inclination toward, someone, something, or some action.

As we mature, we become more stable, or solid in our thinking, actions, and way of life. This is the “bent to” stage, which infers having a strong orientation, inclination, or propensity toward something, someone, or some action. In this stage, we are not as bendable, or flexible, but are more established and have a greater determination. After people have given their lives to Christ, then they are “bent to” following Him. This is a

time of growing stronger, as Paul tells us in Ephesians 6:10, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might."

Later, we become more fixed, or set in our ways. We could call this the "given to" stage, in which we are predisposed, liable, or prone to act in a certain way. This speaks of a life of commitment or dedication. We can see this in the older ones who have committed their lives to the Lord. They have been through the trials and hardships of life, but still remain faithful and dependable. When we are fully "given to" following the Lord, we can say with Paul, "...for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

God's Word gives us many warnings of things we should not be "given to," such as, appetite, pleasures, covetousness, filthy lu-

cre, and wine. But Paul instructs us, in Romans and Timothy, to be "given to" hospitality. And although worded differently, there are many more godly attributes which God tells us we should be "given to." Jesus said, in Mark 12:30, "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength..." We should also be "given to" love, charity, forgiveness, and compassion for others.

So as the sunflower follows and faces the sun and awaits its rising each morning, may we always seek and follow the Son of God, and look for His return every day!

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus;
Look full to His wonderful face.
And the things of earth will
grow strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and
grace.*

Darryl Filbrun



GENERAL

MEMO FROM GOD

To: You

From: The Boss

Date: Today

Subject: Life

I am God.

Today I will be handling all your problems. Please remember that I don't need your help.

If life happens to deliver a situation that you cannot handle, do not attempt to resolve it. Kindly put it in the SFGTD (something for God to do) box. I will handle things from there.

I do, however, expect you to handle the everyday annoyances of life and I expect you to handle them cheerfully. Whining will no longer be tolerated!! Here are a few suggestions to help you:

If you find yourself stuck in traffic, do not despair. Remember there are people in this world for whom driving is an unheard-of privilege.

Should you have a bad day at work, think of the man who has been out of work for years.

Should you despair over a relationship gone bad, think of the person who has never known what it is like to love and be loved in return.

Should your car break down, leaving you miles from assistance, think of the paraplegic who would love the opportunity to fake that walk.

Should you notice a new gray hair in the mirror, think of the cancer patient in chemo who wishes she had hair to examine.

And, should you find yourself at a loss and pondering what life is all about and asking, "What is My purpose?", be thankful. There are those who didn't live long enough to get the opportunity to wonder.

Have a great day and keep up the good work!! GOD

Selected by

Robert and Mary Wright

APPLES OF GOLD IN PICTURES OF SILVER

We enjoy pictures that tell a story. We have walked around some museums and found pictures that were painted very beautifully but did not catch our interest. Some people love those kinds of pictures and go to great lengths to obtain them. They may have several pictures in their possession of great value.

Famous painters have impressed people very much. Michelangelo in Rome was the man who spent days and months painting the ceiling of a chapel while lying on his back. He receives praise from men. Norman Rockwell was another famous artist.

Well, we would like to talk about two pictures in our home that tell a story. The first one we saw was in the Miami Herald Newspaper about ten years ago. It depicts Joseph working in his little workshop. He is standing at his bench working, not knowing what is going on around him. Joseph must have been taking care of his little Son. It looks like the little child might be about one and a half years of age. The sun was shining brightly, for the sun rays were streaming through the door and leaving shadows. The shadows are of Him and what looks like a cross on the floor. He is also playing with three spike nails. The father is standing beside Jesus but completely oblivious of what is being portrayed. There are words on this picture. They are, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased" (Matt. 3:17). Those words were not spoken by Joseph but by

His real Father. Beautiful picture and certainly inspiring. "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver" (Prov. 25: 11).

Another picture is one that portrays a lost sheep. We have seen much larger versions telling this story. This little sheep becomes lost in the hills and finds itself alone and very cold. It lays down and the snow is blowing and begins to cover it. The shepherd counts the sheep that came back to the sheepfold and discovers they are not all in the fold. He has one hundred sheep. He is missing one. So the owner of the sheep puts on the heaviest coat he has and sets out to find the lost one. His dog also goes out with him in search of the lamb. The sky is dark with the storm. There are some vultures in the background not far from this lost lamb just waiting for the little one to expire. Then they will move in and do what vultures do. It just so happens (by the grace of God) that the owner's dog smells the lost sheep and howls loudly hoping to tell its owner that the little sheep is alive and to come fetch it and take it back to the sheepfold. And so, the owner arrives and carries the shivering lamb on his shoulders and begins to rejoice more of that sheep than of those that went not astray.

We don't know about you, but we have felt lost sometimes in our life, but the Master has so kindly rescued us and brought us back to the fold. (Luke 15:4) What a picture. *Apples of gold in pictures of silver.*



*Praise, my soul, the God that sought thee,
Wretched wand'rer, far astray;
Found thee lost, and kindly
brought thee
From the paths of death away.*

P.S. And we want to thank our ministering brethren for speaking "a word fitly spoken" at our annual

conferences , and other times as well. It blesses us so much, and is often "like apples of gold in pictures of silver."

Marshall and Rosalene
Dutter

AN HOUR WITH GEORGE MEULLER

Editor's Note:

Although the author of the following interview esteems George Mueller very highly, it is not our intent in this publication to give undo esteem to men. We are presenting this rather that we might esteem the faithfulness of our God and the power of persevering prayer. May each reader meditate on how this example may bless and inspire each of us as we walk with God and seek His will.

The writer of the following interview furnishes the following particulars concerning the life of George Mueller:

The Founder of the Ashley Down Orphanage, Bristol, England, was born in Prussia, September 17, 1805. In his young manhood he lived a godless life, but at the age of twenty-one he was suddenly converted to God at a prayer meeting held in the house of a pious tradesman. Shortly afterwards he came to England, bringing with him no letters of introduction, no money, no name, no recommendations, and only a very imperfect knowledge of the English language. What, then, did he bring? He brought God with him. Shortly after landing, he wrote in his journal, "My whole life shall be one service for the living God." His principles were deeply rooted in the Holy Scriptures, and he adhered to them through the course of his long life. He never asked help from anyone

and never hinted that help was needed. Solely in answer to believing prayer more than a million and a half sterling, (\$7,500,000) was sent to him for the building and maintenance of "God's Orphanage," for his missionary enterprises, and for the circulation of the Scriptures.

In his homes ten thousand destitute orphans have been received, trained, educated, and sent out into the world.

In his old age he traveled nearly two hundred thousand miles in forty-two countries, preaching the Gospel to three million hearers.

Having thus served God in his day and generation, his spirit, like that of Moses, was kissed away by the mouth of Jehovah, when all alone in his room, on the early morning of March 10, 1898. His age was ninety-three.

"He asked life of Thee, and thou gavest it him, even length of days for ever and ever" (Psalm 21:4).

Pastor Charles R. Parsons describes an hour's interview with George Mueller toward the close of his life:

A warm summer day found me slowly walking up the shady groves of Ashley Hill, Bristol. At the top there met my gaze the immense buildings which shelter over two thousand orphans, built by a man who has given to the world the most striking object lesson in faith it has ever seen.

The first house was on the right, and there among his own people,

in plain, unpretentious apartments, lived the saintly patriarch, George Mueller. Passing the lodge gate, I paused a moment to look at House No. 3, one of the five erected at a cost of \$600,000.

The bell was answered by an orphan who conducted me up a lofty stone staircase and into one of the private rooms of the venerable founder of that great institution. Mr. Mueller had attained the remarkable age of ninety-one. As I stood in his presence, veneration filled my mind. "Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honor the face of the old man..." (Lev. 19:32).

He received me with a cordial handshake and bade me welcome. It is something merely to see a man by whom God has accomplished a mighty work: it is more to hear the tones of his voice; far greater than either is the privilege of being brought into immediate contact with his spirit and of feeling the warm breath of his soul breathed into one's own.

The communion of that hour will be graven on my memory while life shall last. This servant of the Most High opened his heart to me, counseled me, prayed with me, and gave me his blessing.

In that hour the source of George Mueller's great spiritual strength was clearly made manifest. The aged saint with all his faculties unimpaired, was eloquent the whole time on one theme, the praise of Jehovah, the great Hearer and Answerer of His people's prayers. My own words

were few.

"You have always found the Lord faithful to His promise, Mr. Mueller?"

"Always! He has never failed me! For nearly seventy years every need in connection with this work has been supplied. The orphans from the first until now have numbered nine thousand five hundred, but they have never wanted a meal. Hundreds of times we have commenced the day without a penny, but our Heavenly Father has sent supplies the moment they were actually required. There never was a time when we had no wholesome meal. During all these years I have been enabled to trust in the living God alone. In answer to prayer \$7,500,000 have been sent to me. We have needed as much as \$200,000 in one year, and it has all come when needed. No man can ever say I asked him for a penny. We have no committees, no collectors, no voting, and no endowment. *All has come in answer to believing prayer.* God has many ways of moving the hearts of men all over the world to help us. While I am praying He speaks to one and another on this continent and on that to send us help. Only the other evening, while I was preaching, a gentleman wrote a check for a large amount and handed it to me when the service was over."

"I have read your life, Mr. Mueller, and noted how greatly your faith has been tried at times. Is it so now?"

"My faith is tried as much as ever,

and my difficulties are greater than ever. Besides our financial responsibilities, suitable helpers have to be found constantly, and suitable places provided for hundreds of orphans constantly leaving the homes. Then often our funds run very low. Only the other week we had come nearly to the end of our supplies. I called my beloved helpers together and said to them, 'Pray, brethren, pray!' Immediately five hundred dollars was sent us, then a thousand, and in a few days seven thousand five hundred came in. But always we have to be praying, always believing. Oh, it is good to trust in the living God, for He hath said, 'I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee' (Heb. 13:5). Expect great things from God, and great things you will have. There is no limit to what He is able to do. Praises forever to His glorious name! Praise Him for everything! I have praised Him many times when He sent me ten cents, and I have praised Him when He has sent me sixty thousand dollars."

"I suppose you have never contemplated a reserve fund?"

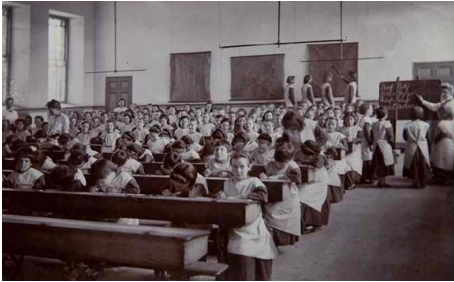
"To do so would be an act of the greatest folly. How could I pray if I had reserves? God would say, 'Bring out those reserves, George Mueller.' Oh no, I never thought of such a thing. Our reserve fund is in Heaven. The living God is our sufficiency. *I have trusted Him for one dollar, I have trusted Him for thousands, and never trusted in vain.* 'Blessed is the man that trusteth in him' (Psalm 34:8b).

"Of course, you have never thought of saving for yourself?" Not easily nor soon shall I forget the dignified manner in which I was answered by this mighty man of faith. Hitherto he had been sitting opposite me with his knees close to mine, his hands clasped, his eyes betokening a calm, quiet, meditative spirit. Most of the time he had leaned forward, his gaze directed on the floor. But now he sat erect, and for several moments searched my face, with an earnestness that seemed to penetrate my very soul. There was a grandeur and majesty about those undimmed eyes, so accustomed to spiritual visions and to looking into the deep things of God. I do not know whether the question sounded to him as a sordid one, or whether it touched a lingering remnant of "the old self" to which he alludes in his discourses. In any event, there was not a shadow of doubt but that it roused his whole being. After a brief pause, during which his face was a sermon and the depths of his clear eyes flashed fire, he unbuttoned his coat and drew from his pocket an old-fashioned purse with rings in the middle separating the character of the coins. Placing it in my hands he said quietly, "All I am possessed of is in that purse—every penny! Save for myself? Never! When money is sent to me for my own use, I pass it on to God. As much as five thousand dollars has thus been sent at

one time; but I do not regard such gifts as belonging to me; they belong to Him, whose I am and whom I serve. Save for myself? I dare not save; it would dishonor my loving, gracious, all-bountiful Father."

I handed the purse back to Mr. Mueller. He told me the sum it contained, and what he himself had given to the Orphanage and the Scripture Knowledge Institution. These matters, however, together with a few others, I am not at liberty to disclose.

There was a glow of holy enthusiasm in the face of this aged, faithful man as he related some of the incidents pertaining to his preaching tours in forty-two different countries and how in traveling



from place to place—in some instances thousands of miles apart—his every need had been supplied. Hundreds of thousands of men and women of almost every nation had come to hear him, and his great themes were the simple message of salvation and the encouragement of believers to trust in the living God. He told me that he prayed more about his sermons than anything else and that often the text was not given him until he had ascended the pulpit stairs,

although he had been praying for it all week.

I asked him if he spent much time on his knees.

"Hours every day. But I live in the spirit of prayer; I pray as I walk, when I lie down, and when I rise. And the answers are *always coming*. Tens of thousands of times my prayers have been answered. When once I am persuaded a thing is right, I go on praying for it until the end comes. I never give up!"

These words were spoken in an exulting tone. There was a ring of triumph in them, and the man's countenance was aglow with holy joy. He had risen from his seat while uttering them and had walked around to the side of the table.

"In answer to my prayers, thousands of souls have been saved," he went on. "I shall meet tens of thousands of them in heaven."

There was another pause. I made no remark, and he continued: *"The great point is to never give up until the answer comes.* I have been praying every day for fifty-two years for two men, sons of a friend of my youth. They are not converted yet, but they *will* be! How can it be otherwise? There is the unchanging promise of Jehovah, and on that I rest. The great fault of the children of God is that they do not continue in prayer; they do not go on praying; they do not persevere. If they desire anything for God's glory, they should pray until they get it.

"Oh, how good, kind, gracious,

and condescending is the One with whom we have to do! He has given me, unworthy as I am, immeasurably above all I have asked or thought! I am only a poor, frail, sinful man, but He has heard my prayers tens of thousands of times and used me as the means of bringing tens of thousands of souls into the way of truth in this and other lands. These unworthy lips have proclaimed salvation to great multitudes, and very many people have believed unto eternal life."

I asked Mr. Mueller whether when he first began the work he had any idea whereunto it would grow. After speaking of its commencement in Wilson Street, he answered, "I only knew that God was in it and was leading His child into untried and untrodden paths. The assurance of His presence was my stay."

"I cannot help noticing the way you speak of yourself," I said, conscious that I was approaching a subject at once tender, sacred, and closely allied with his deepest spiritual moods and personal relationship to God, and I half reproached myself as soon as the words were uttered. He disarmed my fears by exclaiming, "There is only one thing I deserve, and that is Hell! I tell you, my brother, that is the only thing I deserve. By nature I am a lost man, but I am a sinner saved by the grace of God. Though by nature a sinner, I do not live in sin. I hate sin; I hate it more and more, and love holiness more and more."

"I suppose through all these

long years in your work for God, you have met with much to discourage you," I said.

"I have met with many discouragements, but at all times my confidence has been in God," was the reply. "On the word of Jehovah's promise my soul rested! Oh, it is good to trust in Him; His Word never returns void! 'He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength' (Isa. 40:29). This applies also to my public ministrations. Sixty-two years ago I preached a poor, dry, barren sermon with no comfort to myself and, as I imagined, with no comfort to others. But a long time afterwards I heard of nineteen distinct cases of blessing resulting from that sermon."

I told him a few of the things that had discouraged me, and I expressed a hope to be used more of God than ever.

"And you will be used of God, my brother," he exclaimed. "God Himself will bless you! Toil on!"

"May I venture to ask you to give me a word of special counsel in regard to my own work for God," I asked, "that I may pass it on to other Christian toilers in the great harvest field of souls?"

"Seek to depend entirely on God for everything," he answered. "Put yourself and your work into His hands. When thinking of any new undertaking, ask, Is this agreeable to the mind of God? Is it for His glory? If it is not for His glory, it is not for your good, and you must have nothing to do with it. Mind

that! Having settled that a certain course is for the glory of God, begin it in His name and continue in it to the end. Undertake it in prayer and faith, and never give up!

“And do not regard iniquity in your heart. If you do, the Lord will not hear you. Keep that before you always. Then trust in God. Depend only on Him. Wait on Him. Believe on Him. Expect great things from Him. Faint not if the blessing tarry. And above all, rely only on the merits of our adorable Lord and Saviour, so that according to them and to nothing of your own, the prayers you offer and the work you do be accepted.”

I had no word of answer. What was there to say? My eyes were filled with tears, and my heart was overflowing, and besides—there was the speechless awe that dared not move, and all the silent heaven of love.

From another room Mr. Mueller fetched a copy of his life, in which he inscribed my name. His absence afforded me an opportunity of looking around the apartment. The furniture was of the plainest description, useful and in harmony with the man of God who had been talking to me. It is a great principle with George Mueller that it does not become the children of God to be ostentatious in style, appointment, dress, or manner of living. He believes that expensiveness and luxury are not seemly in those who are the professed disciples of the meek and lowly One who had no place to lay His head. On a desk lay an open Bible of clear type

without notes or references.

This, I thought, is the abode of the mightiest man, spiritually considered, of modern times—a man especially raised up to show to a cold, calculating, selfish age the realities of the things of God and to teach the Church how much she might gain if only she were wise enough to take hold of the omnipotent arm of God.

I had been with this prince of prayer one whole hour, and only once had there come a knock at his door. It was opened by Mr. Mueller, and there stood one of his orphans—one of the largest family on earth—a fair-haired girl. “My dear,” said he, “I cannot attend to you just now. Wait awhile and I will see you.” Thus was I privileged to remain uninterrupted with this man of faith, this pre-vailler with God, this traveler of ninety-one years along life’s rough pilgrimage—a man who, like Moses, talks to God as a man talketh to his friend. To me it was as one of the hours of Heaven come down to earth.

His prayer was short and simple. Going to his knees he said, “O Lord, bless this dear servant now before Thee more and more, more and more, more and more! And do Thou graciously guide his pen in what he may write in regard to this Thy work and our conversation today. I ask it through the merits of Thy dear Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen!”

Charles R. Parsons

Selected by the Editor

NOAH, A PREACHER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

There are certain accounts in the Bible the general populace is more acquainted with than others. Noah's life is one of the better known narratives being witnessed to the world at large. Children's books and toys are written and designed depicting him and his family. They are often portrayed on a large boat with a variety of animals being saved from the inundation of the earth. In the world of advertisement and commerce, this event has been used to promote and sell products and services. During times of intense flooding, the hearts of men may refer to the flood in Noah's day even though they may give little credence to the event.

Researchers and scholars of the ancient history period from 3000 BC to 500 AD have discovered what

the Bible authenticates. Among the discoveries they have found that men worshipped creation and not the Creator. Many people groups believed there had been a worldwide flood and that a boat saved mankind from annihilation.

In 475 BC a Chaldean priest chronicled that some remains of Noah's Ark were still visible. The Ark is mentioned in the writings of Flavius Josephus in the era of 50 AD. Around 1296 AD Marco Polo wrote about a mountain called "The Mountain of Noah's Ark."

Over the years there have been expeditions looking for the Ark. Even a man who walked on the moon is among the generations who have searched for it. In recent times, men of faith have built a replica of the Ark using the biblical dimensions given to Noah. Some who are familiar with ship design and construction have credited the



ratio of the Ark's measurements to be the optimum pattern for a ship's stability in rough seas.

Besides the Genesis account of Noah, Isaiah 54 mentions that the waters of Noah would never again flood the earth. Ezekiel 14 portrays that Noah, Daniel, and Job were delivered by righteousness which exemplified their values, decisions, and actions.

In the New Testament there are comparisons made between the Flood and the end of the world. Jesus made several analogies in Matthew 24 when He was asked what the sign of His coming and the end of the world would be. His return is compared to the time of Noah when men were preoccupied with eating and drinking, marrying and given in marriage. Jesus implied that people's minds were being consumed by their own thought patterns and actions thus neglecting righteous thoughts. They disdained Noah's preaching until the day he entered the Ark and then perished when the flood came.

Hebrews 11 relates to God's informing Noah of things to come and to the purpose of building the Ark. II Peter 2 speaks that Noah was called a preacher of righteousness before God destroyed the ungodly by the flood.

We have learned that names in the Hebrew language have meanings which are evident as we read through the Bible. For example, Genesis 4 tells us that after the death of Abel, Eve bore another son and called his name Seth which means "God hath appointed." In Genesis 5 Lamech begat a son and named him Noah which

means "this same shall comfort us." In reviewing the ten names of Adam's generation and their meanings, we can see, when placed in a sentence, the prophetic message foreordained before the foundation of the world.

Adam	man, mankind
Seth	appointed
Enos	mortal (frail, sickness, grief)
Cainan	sorrow
Mahalaleel	the blessed God; the praised God
Jared	shall come down
Enoch	teaching; dedicated
Methuselah	his death shall bring
Lamech	the despairing; bring low
Noah	comfort; rest

"Mankind is appointed, as a mortal to sorrow, but the blessed God shall come down teaching that His death shall bring to the despairing comfort and rest."

The thrust of this sentence points to Jesus, the pre-existent One. In Luke 24 our Savior referenced Moses and the prophets to explain all the Scriptures pertaining to His deity.

The purpose of Jesus' life is manifested in various ways to a dying world. One way is through the Gregorian calendar which is used by most of the world. There are yearly reminders on our calendars of His birth, death, and resurrection which are commemorated on selected days declaring Jesus to the children of men. Day by day we see the goodness of God's calendar in the sun and rain with the fruitful seasons.. The LORD told Noah there would be a seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, sum-

mer and winter, day and night which would not cease as long as the earth continues.

Noah was 600 years old when he entered the Ark, so he would have had ample time to preach about the purpose of the One to come. Noah's great-grandfather, Enoch, the seventh from Adam, is noted in the book of Jude for his preaching. He prophesied that the Lord will come with 10,000 saints to perform judgment upon the ungodly who have spoken against Him.

Man's being in bondage and being released from it is a key theme of the Bible. I Peter 3:18 recounts this release saying that Jesus suffered for our sins, was put to death, and was quickened by the Spirit so that He might bring us to the LORD. In the 19th and 20th verses, Peter touches on conditions before the flood and there was an opportunity for repentance. It seems the Spirit through Noah ministered to the disobedient about the Redeemer, but his preaching was rejected. When Noah and his family entered the Ark after its preparation was completed, the longsuffering of God for that generation ended.

As we wait for the return of our Lord in this post-diluvial age, the longsuffering of God overshadows the earth as it did before the flood. We have this testimony that the Messiah, the Anointed One, was born as was prophesied. He ministered to the impoverished, returned to the right hand of the Father after rising from the grave; thus He is the author and finisher of our faith.

In conclusion, the pre-flood and post-flood message is encompassed in John 3:16. "For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen." (Rev. 22:21)

Calvin Durham

A LOVE SONG

(PSALM 119)

One of the themes of Psalm 119 is to encourage God's people to have love and passion for the word of God. It is necessary to encourage new and old believers alike to ground themselves in God's word. Having God's word in our lives is essential to enable His perfect will to be accomplished. The Psalmist makes clear that God's covenantal revelation is in words, and that word is referred to as "law, testimonies, precepts, statutes, commandments, rules, promises, and word."¹ Many stanzas in Psalm 119 reflect several shades of meaning regarding the word of God which teaches us what our relationship with the word of God should be and tells us "what God wants, or what God appoints, or what God demands, or what God has spoken."²

Blessing is bestowed upon those "who walk in the law [Torah] of the LORD!" (Psalm 119:1b), "keep his testimonies" (119:2a), and "seek him with the whole

¹Kevin DeYoung, "Taking God at His Word: Why the Bible is Knowable, Necessary, and Enough, and What that Means for You and Me" (Wheaton: Crossway Books, 2016), 12.

²Ibid.

heart.” (119:2b) There are 12 expressions of love for God’s word present in Psalm 119, explicitly: commandments (vv. 47, 48, 127), law (vv. 97, 113, 163, 165), testimonies (vv. 119, 167), word (v. 140), and precepts (v. 159).³ No other chapter in the OT uses the Hebrew verb (אהב)(*ahav*) to “love” more than Psalm 119. Look up each of these passages in your Bible and highlight the “love” verbs in Psalm 119. For example: “My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved” (119:48a); and “O how love I, thy law! it is my meditation all the day” (119:97). It is from this standpoint that one can truly say the longest acrostic Psalm in the Bible is an “intricate, finely crafted, single-minded love poem.”⁴ Those who have love and passion for the word of God will prosper.

Believers are to have love and passion for God’s word just as the Psalmist did. Our feelings about the Word should model his: “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path” (119:105), “Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart” (v. 111); “My soul hath kept thy testimonies; and I love them exceedingly” (v. 167); and “I opened my mouth, and panted: for I longed for thy commandments” (v. 131). The heart of the Psalmist yearns for God’s divine direction.

One must come to recognize and believe that God’s word is true, demands what is right, and provides what is good.⁵ One of the exhortations of Psalm 119 is for

believers to develop a love for reading, studying, and memorizing God’s word. This gives understanding and will bring about change in one’s heart that is according to His law, testimonies, precepts, statutes, commandments, rules, promises, and word.

Trent Boone

ABOUT TO CHANGE

“And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.” Rev. 16:12.

Haddam, Iraq is located on the Tigris River. At one time it was a palm-filled, tree-fringed farming community. Today the fields are turning brown, and it is estimated the area is losing 100 square miles a year to desert. In 2019 the water had become brackish, killing the reeds. It displaced 20,000 people.

Parallel to the Tigris runs the Euphrates River. The first begins in Hazer, Turkey; the second in Keban, Turkey, and both flow through Syria until they reach a confluence and form the Shatt al Arab River in Iraq, eventually emptying into the Persian Gulf.

Rumayleh, Syria, is on the Euphrates River. The farmers can no longer pump water to their olive trees. They now walk four miles for water of questionable drinking. Farther north in Turkey the rain-

³The 12th one is in Ps. 119:132 not toward His word, but to “those that love Thy name.”

⁴Ibid.

⁵Ibid, 17–18.

fall is the lowest in thirty years. There are cascading effects for all three nations. Less water flows through dams and less power is available, not to mention less water for people, crops, and animals. Besides the fact that two of the three are war-torn going on twenty years. Hunger and disease are spreading, and people are fleeing if they can. If only the nations could agree on changing their ways and fix this climate, they say.

Twenty of the largest nations burned up jet fuel in October flying to Rome, Italy, to figure out what to do. Before you think it a shameful waste consider that it hardly matters.

We have old news for them. The Euphrates is supposed to dry up. Iran, the “-stan” nations, India, and China all lie east of the river and some kings are coming with their armies someday. China is building the “Belt and Road,” a trade route of railways, highways, pipelines and streamlined border crossings through these countries. No bridge will be needed at the Euphrates.

The effort of man will seem a drop in the bucket. The other thing man has decided is the population needs to decrease. In direct defiance to the command of God to be fruitful and multiply, someone erected the Georgia Guide Stones, a set of ten guidelines in stone on a very high point in the state. In 8 modern languages they say they want to maintain humanity under 500,000,000, keeping man in perpetual balance with nature, all of whom should be fit and diverse. Today we are at 7,900,000,000. As the old saying goes, be careful what you ask for.

One day a portion of the earth’s population, dead and living is going to disappear in an instant. We don’t know how many will be raptured.

“And I looked and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.” We do know that one fourth of today’s population would take 2,000,000,000 people. This is after the red horse has gone out and men have killed each other, how many we know not. Then there are a number of tribulation saints killed for their faith. “Many” will pass when the waters are made bitter (Rev. 8:11). Revelation 11:13 records that 7,000 more will pass in an earthquake at Jerusalem when the two prophets which were killed are risen and ascended to heaven. Revelation 9:18 says 2 million men at the river of Euphrates will slay a third part of men. One would wonder if the population will even be 500,000,000!

Now let’s consider what kind of balance of nature the remaining population will live with. Revelation 8:9 tells us a third of the seas will be turned to blood and a third of the sea creatures will die. (Count some more dead people on a third of the ships destroyed.)

Get out a map and take a long look at the Pacific Ocean. It is about a third of the earth’s sea surface. Next (Rev. 8:11) a star falls from heaven and a third of the earth’s fresh water, rivers and fountains will be undrinkable.

Have you ever walked through the burned-out area after a forest fire? Imagine, if you will, one large enough to destroy a third of the earth's trees. Can you fathom a fire that will burn up all the grass? Every bit on earth! Revelation 8:7 speaks of hail, fire, and blood raining down and doing this. We wonder about the blood if that will be the blood of birds or actually raining blood. Blood doesn't flow like water, and it will be a sticky, stinking mess covering a third of the earth. That is equivalent to the countries that comprise the continent of Asia. Does this sound like a place you can live?

And men are worried about carbon. How foolish is man spending money he doesn't have to fix something that doesn't need fixed, and what a surprise he is in for when climate change really does come, as if he even could prevent it.

Pay attention, because the laws will doubtless affect our lives but know it is nothing more than a distraction from what is really coming and why you should be very interested in *salvation*. Leave the earth's restoration to the Lord and concentrate on just being ready to leave. Things are about to change.

Rachel Brubaker

HE HAS GIVEN SO MUCH!

Dear Children of God,

This is written after reading a story of a man who lost everyone in his family. Finally on his next to the last move, which was to the

nursing home, he was home directing the men of the moving van. These men carefully and respectfully moved his aged and splintered furniture, as though they were working for a king. While they were working, a page relating to the man's two sons, who had drowned in a boating accident, fell out of one of the drawers. They carefully picked it up and gave it to the Dad.

Some time later, the movers received something very special. The old man died, leaving six-and-a-half million dollars to the movers.

This is like our Father up in Heaven, who sent His Son Jesus, who died to save us. There is nothing in our lives that He has forgotten to give us relating to our needs! We have salvation, food, and clothing. He hears our prayers to deliver us and to guide us! What more do we need?

And He has left us with a large inheritance! He said (Matt. 28:18–20) “All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.”

Yes, we are tempted and tried, but He will be there with us!

Now, what is our response to all of these gifts and promises? May we do our best to serve Him.

Vicki Witmer

MEDITATIONS

If you want to argue the mode of baptism, you probably aren't ready yet. The value of a sacrifice is not what you paid but what it cost. Be content with what you have—never with what you are. Those who have rejected the truth are wide open to falsehood. Consider every person to be God's greatest handiwork. Death puts life into an all-new perspective. A funeral is not the place to preach Hell.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

This section offers some questions to think about, or for Sunday afternoon discussions, or to prompt future articles from our readers, etc. Readers are encouraged to offer questions.

“Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice: and let men say among the nations, The LORD reigneth” (I Chron. 16:31). Several times in the Scripture it is said, “The Lord reigneth!”

Questions:

1. Is the Lord indeed *reigning*?

2. If the Lord is *reigning*, why then is there not peace?

3. Is the Lord allowing all men to do as they wish as He reigns? Why?

4. Am I doing as I wish? Or am I serving Him?

5. Should I make His *reign* in the earth known to others?

6. How can I do this?

7. Is He *reigning* in my own heart?

8. What are the signs of His *reign*?

9. Do I have peace?

GENERAL ITEMS

BAPTISMS

June 5, 2022; Kidron Valley, KS
Lucinda Markley

June 9, 2022; Stillwater, OH
Ross Flora

June 12, 2022; Shenandoah, VA
Torie Bowman, Ben Bowman,
Evan Brubaker, Blaize Brubaker

June 16, 2022; Pleasant View, OH
Kaylee Flory

June 26, 2022; Western Kansas, KS
Jamie Miller

Oct. 8, 2022.....Zillah District, WA

Oct. 15, 2022..... Clearwater, IN and
Scottville, MI together in IN

Oct. 15, 2022..... Maple Grove, OH

Oct. 15, 2022..... Western Kansas, KS

Oct. 22, 2022.....Stillwater, OH

Oct. 29, 2022..... Bethel, OH

Oct. 29, 2022..... Caldwell, ID

Nov. 5, 2022..... Columbia River, WA

Nov. 5, 2022..... Kidron Valley, KS

Nov. 12, 2022..... Covington, OH

Nov. 12, 2022..... Shenandoah, VA

COMMUNION NOTICES

Sept. 3, 2022 Providence, IN

Sept. 10, 2022.....Mountain View. ID and
Mission Valley, MT together in ID

Sept. 24, 2022 Pleasant View, OH

Oct. 1, 2022.....Covenant Valley, VA

HARVEST MEETINGS

Aug. 7, 2022..... Maple Grove, OH

Aug. 14, 2022 ... Covington/Sugar Grove, OH

Aug. 21, 2022Salem, OH

Aug. 28, 2022Stillwater, OH

Sept. 25, 2022.....Bear Creek, OH

Nov. 24, 2022.....Pleasant View, OH

POEMS

LION

From up the road come ruckus
 And sounds of people jeering.
 What is this?
 Then up the street, people;
 From Him chunks of flesh are tearing—
A Lion plods.

This ghastly parade is closer now
 And I'm wondering why and how.
 He endures it calmly;
 They are laughing at His pain and
 Making sport of His great shame, yet
The Lion plods on.

The crowd is angry. No one
 Really seems to know
 What the Lion has done—
 They are all just too caught up
 In the fun and drama of the moment.
The Lion plods on.

The pain is apparent in His eyes, yet
 Something greater is also there;
 He looks up into everyone's face
 With a gentle, searching gaze
 That somehow strikes fear into
 every heart.

And He plods on.

The Lion is weak; He
 Stumbles and falls, the people
 around Him
 Are screaming cat calls—
 A fellow beats Him back to His feet
 And sends Him up to a hill whose top
 He won't meet
 Unless He has help.
Yet the Lion plods on.

The crowd draws a worker
 From their midst; They
 Don't want their fun to be over yet.
 The chosen man is work scarred.
 Yet he has the markings of
 A gentleman. The crowd laughs
 As he picks up the ball
 On the Lion's chain and carriers it.
 The Lion gives him a kindly glance
And stumbles on.

The Lion struggles. He's nearing
 The top. He gives one last ounce
 Of energy, then collapses, torn and
 bleeding,
 On the execution block. He
 Flinches and twitches aa they tor-
 ture Him,

Yet lifts not a paw
 Against them. The sky grows black.
 The ground shakes. And then
 He gives the last and only sound
 I've ever heard Him utter:
 A mighty roar.

I wonder
 How He had the strength
 Left in Him.

The Lion dies!

The sport is over. The fun
 Is gone. People wander
 Back to their homes. In the future
 They will wonder
 If it was all a dream.
 There doesn't seem much left
 Of the Lion; just a steady stream
 Of crimson blood flows
 Down the rocks and gathers
 In a pool at the bottom.
The Lion is dead.

Then suddenly a few days later
 Thunder echoes. It seems that
 Lion's last roar
 Is haunting the earth. Rocks split;
 Other lions wake and prowl the earth.
 A light is seen
 Where the Lion last was spotted;
 Then with a halo
 Of golden locks
 And eyes of justice and mercy
 He stands and roars.

THE LION REIGNS!

Kyra King

THE MASTER'S PLAN

Life is like a game of chess,
 Yet different, you will see.
 Pieces moved at the behest
 Of God are you and me.

Unlike the chess games that we play,
 Whose pieces aren't alive:
 They have no will; don't push their way,
 Nor for advantage strive.

We are alive; we are aware;
 We struggle to submit.
 "Not here;" we cry, "but over there
 Would be the better fit."

At times we may not understand
 Why He has placed us here,
 For we can't see the Master plan;
 Our vision's not that clear.

We must allow our Lord to move,
 And trust the choice He makes.
 For He sees all things from above
 And there are no mistakes.

G. Miller

Selected by

Barb Rogers,

LIFE—BUT THEN

Tucked in our hearts
 Is God's special will!
 If we'll do our part—
 To believe Him still.

When things go wrong
 Let us look above!
 Let's sing His praise
 And return His love!

Yes, we are weak,
 But God knows all!
 His will let's seek—
 God knows each fall.

When plans are turned,
 Let us learn to pray,
 "Thy will be done!"
 And accept His way!

Overcome—seeing—
 Makes silver shine!
 And gold to gleam!
 Draws "line on line."

Now ugly grays
 Someday we'll see;
 They're smoothed away
 On Calvary's tree!

We'll rise renewed,
 As the days are told—
 As our lives are viewed
 To shine as gold!

The times our tears
 Are put "in a bottle"
 His book—our years,
 As our lives settle.

He's delivered our souls!
 Clear away from death!
 Our hearts are healed
 Then our soul shall lift.

"What a joy is given!"
 Through Jesus, we're living!
 Though our lives were driven—
 It's Jesus we're seeing!

We'll thank Him eternally!

Vicki Witmer

OBITUARIES

FILBRUN — Wilma Lucille (Kinzie) was born December 10, 1923, in Whittier, California; the firstborn daughter of Jesse Guy Kinzie and Hazel Belle Killingsworth. When she was one year old, the family moved back to Kansas, selling her baby crib to another young couple for their son Stanley Filbrun. Mother enjoyed a happy childhood on a farm near Sawyer, Kansas among many cousins and friends. She and her three sisters loved to sing and spent hours harmonizing together. Realizing her need of a Savior, she was baptized on August, 30, 1942 by Elder John Reece along with four other girls and became a member of the Old German Baptist Brethren Church.

As a young woman, Mother moved to Indiana, working in a furniture factory and developing many lifelong friendships. In January of 1946, she came to California with Mary Angle and began helping Phyllis Flory with her newborn daughter Shirley. Somehow the baby's Uncle Stanley needed to wash his car there every day and a romance blossomed.

Dad and Mother were married on May 15, 1946, at her parents' home in Sawyer, Kansas, by Elder Alva Turner.

They began life together in a little house on Hatch Road and in 1951 moved to their new home on

Central Avenue where they raised three children, Robert, Janet, and Galen and spent the remainder of their years together. They farmed apricots, grapes, peaches, and walnuts. They also operated a cutting shed where many young people worked during their summers.

In 1956, Dad and Mother were called to the office of the ministry in the Modesto District and were charter members of the Tuolumne congregation when it was formed in 1957, faithfully serving in that capacity for fifty-two years.

They enjoyed many trips to church meetings, traveling each year to annual conference and hosted countless guests and Sunday dinners, which always included her famous custard. Mother was very energetic and creative, excelling in sewing, quilting, crocheting, cooking, and canning, using them as a blessing to her family and others. Stanley and Wilma shared their home with several young people during these busy years, creating lasting relationships.

Mother suffered several small strokes during the recent months that left her unable to live independently. Hospice care was begun in February 2022, as she began to experience physical difficulties which led to her passing this life to a better one in the early morning hours of April 19, 2022.

Left to mourn her loss are her

children, Robert and Sue Filbrun, Ray and Janet Benedict, Galen and Brenda Filbrun; and sister, Della Knaus. She leaves eleven grandchildren and their spouses, Leslie and Melanie Bowman, Todd and Jessica Filbrun, Jesse and Megan Slothour, Jay and Maggie Hawbaker, Layne and Tara Filbrun, Matthan and Jolene Benedict, Christian and Amy Filbrun, Colin and Maribeth Filbrun, Karly Filbrun, Kayley Filbrun, Ashlan Filbrun as well as twenty-seven great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild and many nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death were her loving husband, Stanley in 2008; as well as her sisters, Margaret (and Harold) Miller, Gladys (and David) Metzger; and brother-in-law, Wayne Knaus.

Also sisters-in-law, Phyllis (and Howard) Flory, Pauline (and Mervin) Grover, Doris (and Earl) Fisher, Doris Denlinger Fisher, and Lois Bauman Flory; and three great-grandchildren, Cephas Bowman, Jill Hawbaker, and Janae Hawbaker.

We wish to thank the Tuolumne church family, the dedicated caregivers, and the kind neighbors who assisted the family over the years in honoring our Mother's wishes to live out her days in her own home. We also want to acknowledge the care provided by the staff of the Graceful Living home on Amos Court in her final week.

We are grateful to God for the mother we had and for her many examples, and praise Him for many precious memories which we will carry until we meet again.

"Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints" (Ps. 116:15).

The Family

DEETER — Annette Ione, was born in Greenville, Ohio, on August 6, 1945, and entered into rest May 14, 2022. She was a twin to Lucille Ann. At ten days old she and Lucille were adopted by wonderful parents Henry and Edith Deeter and came home to an older sister Janice and an older brother Ronnie to Ansonia, Ohio.

After making Ansonia their home they made a move across the United States to Ripon, California. After asking, "Are we there yet?" many times, they arrived in Ripon in July of 1956 in a Black 1949 Packard.

Annette began fifth grade at Ripon Elementary School. After High School she started working at Garber Hatchery. She enjoyed six years of house cleaning before starting at Blu-Lite Family Restaurant here in Ripon where she worked as a cook for over thirty-two years. From there she went to work at Bethany Home for five years before retiring. She enjoyed being a cook and serving the community.

Her love for animals led her to purchase her own horse, together with her twin sister Lucille. They enjoyed the many trails here locally riding their horse with friends and family.

In her spare time, she enjoyed doing crafts and also enjoyed a trip to Hawaii with friends.

Annette was a member of the Old German Baptist Church, New Conference. She was a faithful woman who loved the Lord, her family, church, and community.

In her retirement she moved to the Bethany Manor Senior Apartments. She enjoyed playing weekly games with friends. Annette was loved by her fellow residents and will be dearly missed.

Annette is preceded in death by her parents, Henry and Edith Deeter. She is survived by sisters: Janice Leece of Springfield, Ohio, and twin sister Lucille of Ripon; and brother Ronald (Margaret) of Ripon.

Graveside services were held on Thursday, May 19, 2022, at Wood Colony Cemetery, Modesto, California.

The Family

KING — Kenneth E., the son of Thomas J. King and Pearl E. (Garber) King was born in Darke County, Ohio, August 28, 1942. He grew up in this farming community and was educated in a one room school his first eight grades. He

graduated from Greenville Senior High School in 1960. He gave his 8th grade teacher no little joy when he placed first in a county wide achievement exam that included a number of bigger consolidated schools that co-existed with the few remaining (8 grade) one room schools. God gave Kenneth a good and inquisitive mind. He grew up and enjoyed the simplicity and unique challenges of farm life. Small scale farming instilled in him a favorable work ethic that complemented his creative mind. Over the protests of some of his teachers, he chose not to take his education beyond high school. He entered the work force drawing numerous house plans for a local building contractor, while also building and finishing custom cabinets for him.

In the early 1960's his selective service obligation took him to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where he worked in the surgical ward of a hospital for two years. Pennsylvania became home. He met the love of his life there in the person of Donna Faye Ott. They were married April 30, 1966. They were not blessed with any children but greatly enjoyed the 35 years the Lord gave them together. In 2001 the Lord took Donna to her heavenly home.

Kenneth initially worked at a local engineering and machine facility in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania before starting his own small

business. He then earned his livelihood for many years by building dozens of new homes in and around the local area. He gradually phased out his working career by first working for a local assisted living enterprise and then worked a few years for a local building contractor before retiring.

Kenneth and Donna always worked closely together, but they also were privileged to enjoy many travels together. Their church affiliation took them to many different areas in the United States. Their love of creation and diverse cultures also took them to Alaska, Europe, and the Holy Lands multiple times.

Donna's passing was grievous to him, but the Savior that he loved gave sufficient grace. Kenneth had committed to following Jesus long before this, having been baptized into Christ November 7, 1962. He was a member of the Old German Baptist Brethren Church.

In his later years he spent a lot of time alone, reading and researching. He also continued to travel, including Turkey, China, and Malaysia. He was a great observer. He never ceased to admire the spiritual and creative genius of the great Creator. His inquisitive mind many times drifted into infinity, as he marveled at the mysteries of God's universe and enjoyed thinking about the unsolved possibilities of common, yet profoundly mysterious things like

light and gravity. His house in later years resembled a greenhouse/laboratory combo, with numerous plants growing and thriving in vacuumed glass containers. Numerous sketches of gravity machines testified to his love for proving the unprovable. Kenneth's mind was always busy.

Declining health in recent years, including heart surgery, required that he seek special assistance. Kenneth chose to first convalesce and then live at the Shook home in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. He lived and enjoyed the last three years of his life there. Then on June 2, 2022, following a rapid decline, the Lord called him home. His time on earth was 79 years, 9 months, and 5 days.

Surviving to mourn his passing are his only sibling, Philip J. King and wife Rebecca of Ohio; sisters-in-law, Joan (Ott) Beery and husband Mark, of Ohio, Sharon (Ott) Wissler and husband Dale, of Pennsylvania, and Joyce (Ott) Hege and husband Jamie, of Pennsylvania, plus numerous cousins, and in-law nieces and nephews. Surviving aunts and uncles, all living in Ohio, are Uncle Robert Miller, Uncle George Flora, Aunt Helen (Miller) Garber, Uncle Merle Benedict, and Aunt Betty (Garber) Bowman and husband Harvey.

Kenneth's surviving nieces and nephews include, Jill (King) Flory and husband Travis of Ohio; Debo-

rah (King) Flora and husband Matthew, of Kansas; and Jordan King, of Kansas.

Preceding him in death were his beloved wife Donna, his parents, Thomas and Pearl (Garber) King, his in-laws Raymond and Evelyn (Leshner) Ott, an infant nephew, Bradley King, and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Funeral services were conducted at the Old German Baptist Brethren Falling Springs meeting house at 10:00 A.M., June 13, 2022, by ministers Mike Beery, Glen Jamison, and Roland Hess. Edifying remarks were made about the wonders of heaven, with Revelation 21 used as a basis for the message accompanied by hymns 227 and 443. A call to faithfulness was emphasized for all. Brother Richard Hess had the devotion at the grave which lies immediately adjacent to the meeting house. A

warm and final tribute was given to Kenneth, and fitting words about death were spoken. The grave was filled by loved ones while accompanied by the singing of songs about heaven.

So now to Kenneth, we, his family, say goodbye. Great things lie ahead. Praise be to Jesus Christ, the Lord of Glory, who shall change our vile bodies, that they may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able to subdue all things unto himself (Phil. 3:21).

We sincerely thank Kenneth's church family, his in-laws, and all that have labored and graciously assisted us in this time of loss. Your kindness and respect are of great value and much appreciated. "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."

The Family

Terms

Subscriptions should be made through the congregational contact or through *The Testimony* office. Subscription price is \$20.00 per year. New subscriptions should be paid (prorated) through the remainder of the current year. All renewals begin at the first of the calendar year. Newly married and those unable to pay for a subscription may receive a free subscription through the agent of their local congregation.

Contributors

Authors of essays, devotionals, poems, etc. are asked to review the Statement of Purpose on the back page of this periodical. Articles should

be based on Scripture. References are appreciated. Shorter focused articles are more desirable than articles that move from one topic to another. Selected material will be considered. Original writings are preferred. It is recommended that writers submit themselves to the Spirit, which reveals the will of God to the Church in every age, according to the varied needs and circumstances.

Written articles should be legible. Typed material is preferred and should be double-spaced. Electronic transmission or CD will be accepted. The author's name and address must be included on all material. An attempt will be made to contact the author of articles that are not accepted.

Old German Baptist Brethren
Church—New Conference

THE TESTIMONY

353 Billman Rd.
New Paris, OH 45347-9102

The Testimony is a Christian publication intended for those who desire nourishment in their spiritual walk, and for writers who wish to express witness to the Truth of the Gospel as experienced in their own lives. It holds the Holy Scriptures to be its only Creed. Its purpose is to bear witness to the Truth of God's Word as it is applied in the daily life of committed Christians. It supports the anabaptist and pietist foundations of the Brethren of Schwarzenau, Germany (1708) including the biblical principle of the community of believers bound by a confession of faith in the Lord Jesus confirmed by adult immersion baptism (Mark 16:16). It strives to promote a life of true living piety among all who confess Jesus as their Lord. It seeks to restore and

maintain a fellowship of true primitive Christianity through the communication of all good things.

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