

As newborn babes desire the sincere

MILK OF THE WORD

That ye may



Grow thereby

1 Peter 2:2



HIGHER! HIGHER!! HIGHER!!!



1 TIM
4:13



PSALM
119:9



ST. JOHN : 21:15

MILK OF THE WORD

For the newly converted regardless of natural age

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EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS

My Dear Brother In Christ:

I have been so thankful to find in Milk of the Word, a felt need for the young in Christ. Each season (I refer to tent seasons especially), one feels the need of a simple line of truth for babes in Christ. This is often forgotten in our larger monthlies, so this, under God's hand, will fill a real need.

I am enclosing some simple things I copied; you may find a use for them. I am enclosing \$4.70, please let 10 copies come monthly.

Yours affectionately,

SAM McEWEN.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR THE LORD'S RETURN?

Do you tell your friends and neighbors about this momentous event we are expecting daily, and can you show them your authority for it from Scripture? In a very simple way, suited to babes in Christ, the subject is being presented to our readers in our Magazine, "MILK OF THE WORD," in a current series of four articles by Tom M. Olson, which began with the June number. New subscriptions may begin with that number if desired. Back numbers may be obtained at 3c per copy until exhausted.

Some Young Christian would be helped if you sent them this magazine and would thank you for it. Only 50c per year.

THE SECRET FOE

A large aeroplane was recently taking a flight over mountainous country. The pilot and his observer had not been traveling long when they heard a noise on board that filled them with anxiety.

Now it has been found that it is a far greater danger to have one rat on board a ship that sails in the air than to have a hundred rats on a vessel that travels the sea. An aeroplane is so easily damaged—the biting through of one wire, the tearing of the fabric of a wing, might be enough to send the aeroplane smashing to the ground. So before a flight the aeroplane is inspected, and as a rule the greatest care is taken in this inspection.

Sometimes, however, even the greatest care is beaten. In this case it was the discovery that a rat was gnawing away in some secret nook of the aeroplane that disturbed these men. What could they do? It was impossible at that height to search the plane, and if they attempted to land the mischief might be complete before they could do so. Besides, they were traveling over a mountain range, and that is not suitable ground upon which to land an aeroplane. To land there would mean a smash.

Suddenly the pilot thought of a good idea. He began to mount higher and higher into the already very keen mountain air. Higher and still higher he went, until the two men could scarcely breathe. Their ears felt like bursting, their breath came in great tearing gasps—but up and up they went. Why? They were waiting for something they knew must happen. Difficult as it was for them to breathe in the cold rare atmosphere of that mountain height, they knew that it must be much worse for their secret foe, the rat. An animal's rate of breathing is much faster and shallower than that of a man. The rat would have to give in first.

So higher, still higher they went. And then their courage and endurance were rewarded, for with a feeble scamper a large rat came out from its hiding-place and fell panting and dying on the floor of the aeroplane. In a moment the observer had

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flung it overboard. He and his companion were safe from their secret foe.

Your soul is like an aeroplane rushing through life. Has it any secret foe on board? Do you sometimes hear or feel the "gnaw-gnaw" of some evil desire, some rat-like purpose? Let this story show you the way to get rid of the secret foes that lurk in the depth of the soul. **Ride high through life.** Keep near to God. Seek the heights of pure thought and noble feeling and the poisonous things will fall away. As St. Paul puts it, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above." You must **seek** the pure and the good, that is, go in eager pursuit of them, if you would escape the power of the unclean and the evil. Noisome foul airs always cling to the ground—in the heights the air is always pure.

A. D. BELDEN.

Cleave Close to Jesus

Soul of mine, cleave close to Jesus
Through this ever-changing scene;
In the sunshine or the tempest,
Ever on His strong arm lean.

Ever in His love abide thee,
In communion sweet and blest,
Even when the storm is raging
Find in Him thy sweetest rest.

In the noon-day's brightest splendor
Sun will brighter, clearer, shine,
If with Christ thy dear Redeemer,
Friendship's ties unsevered twine.

In the sullen gloom of midnight
Nought thy spirit shall appall,
For when leaning on His bosom
He can hear thy faintest call.

—Edith Bennett.

SPEAKING TO COMPANIONS

A young lad who, in the earliest days of the Christian life, was very devoted to the Lord, and diligent in His service, was observed to become, all of a sudden, very dull and desponding. His voice was never heard in prayer or testimony for the Lord, and we began to fear that some "little fox" was doing its deadly work, down at the roots of his spiritual being.

One day I met him in the street, and asked him what had gone wrong. With a tear in his eye, he sorrowfully replied, "I have allowed Satan to close my mouth. I have not spoken to one in the office yet about their soul, and it would be hypocrisy to preach to others, when those around me are yet unwarned."

Dear lad, how my heart felt for him. There was doubtless much truth in what he said, but the devil was using it to keep in perpetual silence one of the Lord's witnesses.

But it was only for a season. That night Tom gathered a few of his companions in the office together, and told them what a coward he had been, spoke lovingly to them of Jesus, and his joy was restored.

How Satan seeks to spoil young saints thus! and with many he has wonderfully succeeded. They never open their mouths in public; they seem to be ashamed of the Lord. By and by they will lose heart for the things of God—as Tom was doing—and slip down into cold indifference.

Dear young saints, are you allowing Satan thus to rob you of your joy, to draw you into his net, and to cause you to grieve the Lord? It may be true that you have failed in the past to witness for Christ to those around you, but this need not keep you forever in silence. Go to God your Father at once, and confess your sin and unfaithfulness to Him. Then seek grace to redeem the lost time, and begin to open your mouth in testimony for the Lord among your companions and fellow-workers yet unsaved. Courage will be given you, and God will give you help. Full well the devil knows what one honest witness for Christ may do, and so he leaves no stone unturned, to keep as many as he can in perpetual silence.

Young believer, let not the enemy thus triumph over you. Your lips belong to Jesus, and by them you may speak forth

SPEAKING TO COMPANIONS

His praise. Only yet a little while, and the days of your testimony for Him on earth will be gone forever.

—Selected by Sam McEwen.

THEY ROSE EARLY, SO SHOULD I

Abraham rose early to stand before the Lord, Gen. 19:27.

Abraham rose early to sacrifice Isaac, Gen. 22:3.

Jacob rose early to worship the Lord, Gen. 28:18.

Moses rose early to give God's message to Pharaoh, Ex. 8:20

Moses rose early to build an altar to God, Ex. 24:4.

Moses rose early to meet God at Sinai, Ex. 34:4.

Joshua rose early to lead Israel over Jordan, Josh. 3:1.

Joshua rose early to capture Jericho, Josh. 6:12.

Joshua rose early to take Ai, Josh. 8:10.

Gideon rose early to examine the fleece, Judg. 6:38.

Hannah and Elkanah rose early to worship God, 1 Saml. 1:19.

Samuel rose early to meet Saul, 1 Saml. 15:12.

David rose early to do as his father bid him, 1 Saml. 17:20.

Israel rose early and found their enemies dead, 2 Kings 19:35.

Job rose early to offer sacrifices for his children, Job 1:5.

The Son of God rose early to go to a solitary place to pray, Mark 1:35.

Jesus Christ rose early to go to the temple to teach, John 8:2.

The people rose early to go to hear Him, Luke 21:38.

The women rose early to go to the sepulchre, Mark 16:2.

“The morning is the gate of the day, and should be well guarded with prayer. It is one end of the thread on which the day's actions are strung, and should be well knotted with devotion. If we felt more the majesty of life we should be more careful of its mornings. He who rushes from his bed to his business and waiteth not to worship is as foolish as though he had not put on his clothes, or cleansed his face, and as unwise as though he dashed into battle without arms or armor. Be it ours to bathe in the softly flowing river of communion with God, before the heat of the wilderness and the burden of the way begin to oppress us.”

THE PRACTICAL COMING

When we term the Lord's coming a "practical" coming, we mean that its results will be most practical. Let us consider some of its practical results. Were the Lord Jesus to return today, the Word tells us that the "dead in Christ" will be the first class to benefit therefrom. Hearken to the words: "The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and **the dead in Christ shall rise first**" (1 Thess. 4:16).

Every believer in the Lord Jesus Christ is sealed with that Holy Spirit of God "unto the day of redemption" (Eph. 4:30). The redemption mentioned in this passage is the "redemption of our body" (Rom. 8:23). Hence when a believer falls asleep through Jesus and the body is laid away, it is only laid away temporarily. The dust of believers' bodies is precious in the estimation of the Lord. The bodies of departed believers shall have precedence in the order of events to transpire at the coming again of our Lord Jesus Christ, "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead (in Christ) shall be raised incorruptible . . . For this corruptible must put on incorruption" (1 Cor. 15:52-53). This is the reason that bereaved believers "sorrow not, even as others which have no hope" (1 Thess. 4:13). We can sing the song of the redemption of the body:

"It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:

It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory:

It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power:

It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body.

There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body."

The second result of the Lord's return will also be very practical: "**We shall be changed.**" All living believers shall be changed at that time. The Apostle Paul said: "Behold I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but **we shall all be changed**, 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.**" Again he said: "Our citizenship is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: **Who shall change our vile body**, that it

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may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby He is able even to subdue all things unto Himself" (Phil. 3:20-21).

The Apostle John gives a similar message. He says: "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that when He shall appear, **we shall be like Him**; for we shall see Him as He is" (1 John 3:2).

Could anything be more practical for us than bodily conformity to our Saviour! When our bodies are changed, we shall be forever delivered from the presence of sin, and from all its effects such as disease, pain, sorrow and death. We shall be rid of our present imperfections and limitations.

What wondrous words are those which the Apostle Paul by the Spirit of God gives us in Romans 8:28-29. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be **conformed to the image of His Son!**" Let us repeat the words regarding living believers:

"We shall be changed,"

"We shall be like Him,"

We shall "be conformed to the image of His Son."

The next result of the second advent of the Lord Jesus will be blessedly practical. The "raised" and "changed" **shall be caught up together to meet the Lord**. This assurance is given us in 1 Thess. 4:16-18: "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain **shall be caught up together** with them in the clouds, to **meet the Lord in the air**; and so **shall we ever be with the Lord**. Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

A most comforting hope, indeed! To see the Lord Jesus Christ, to see our saved loved ones, to be changed, to be caught up together with them, to meet the Lord in the air, and to be forever with Him and like Him! How much depends on and awaits the Lord's return! With what eagerness we should look

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forward to and wait and pray for the glorious event of our Lord's return!

"O joy, O delight, should we go without dying,
No sickness, no sadness, no dread, and no crying;
Caught up through the clouds, with our Lord into glory,
When Jesus receives His own!" —Tom M. Olson.

My Need

*I thought I needed many things
Along life's toilsome way,
When days were long and heavy cares
Left scarcely time to pray.*

*I thought I needed many things
For those I hold most dear,
When they were sad or longed for rest,
Or change of portion here.*

*When it was Thee I needed Lord,
To satisfy my heart;
To fill my days with rest and peace
And every grace impart.*

*And those I loved but needed Thee;
Not change of scene or place,
But faith just now, through sun or shade,
Thy loving hand to trace.*

*Just Thee alone, My Blessed Lord,
For every time and place;
Just Thee alone—until we all
Shall see Thee face to face.*

—Grace E. Troy.

HINTS FOR PROFITABLE BIBLE READING

In order that our reading of the Word of God be of definite and lasting profit, several things should be kept in view:

- (1) Reflection,
- (2) Retention,
- (3) Reproduction,

or, as another has aptly put it: (1) Infusion, (2) Suffusion, and (3) Transfusion.

(1) **Reflection.** This means something more than merely reading the Book. If you happen to have a friend who is a radio enthusiast, you will have heard him speak of "reception" being good or poor, according to conditions. "Interference" is one of his great annoyances. "Tuning in" is always necessary. Just so it is with Bible reading. "Interference" must be gotten rid of; everything foreign must be excluded. There must be **concentration**. And, above all, it is needful to be "in tune" with Him whose message we are receiving, in order that its full power may be felt in our souls.

How thoughtlessly much of our reading is done! At times it would be almost impossible to tell, five minutes after laying down the Book, what we have been reading about. The mind has not absorbed the subject-matter of the passage. To eliminate this condition we must arouse ourselves to a healthy interest. It is not difficult to fix the mind on what we are really interested in. And surely nowhere else are such interesting possibilities to be found as in the Word of God! Think of the immense benefits of a well-rounded knowledge of Scripture! Think of the advantages of acquaintance with the will of God! Think of the marvelous vistas of truth this Book opens up! Think of the privilege of growing acquaintance with the Lord Jesus Christ and of communion with Him through its sacred pages! Surely these are considerations that should stir our hearts to deepest interest and longing!

(2) **Retention.** It is well to have the mind stored with the **very words** of God. For this purpose one should memorize outstanding verses and portions. The simplest way of doing this is, of course, to repeat the portion till it is firmly fixed on the memory. Writing is often helpful, especially to those with

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“visual” memories. It helps, too, to treat a portion analytically, somewhat in this fashion:

God loved

God loved the world

God so loved the world

God so loved the world that He gave

God so loved the world that He gave His Son

God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten

Son, etc.

In this way, the mind is made to dwell on the several factors of a passage, its truth is more clearly seen, and at the same time the memory is impressed.

As to the usefulness of notes for the conservation of the fruits of study, there can be little doubt. Most serious students use them. A wide-margin Bible, in which to record “finds,” and a loose-leaf notebook in which to arrange notes of subjects (alphabetically, or in some other logical order), are excellent for this purpose.

(3) **Reproduction.** Here we have the chief purpose of Bible reading: that Christ may be reproduced in us. If our occupation with the Word of God has not this result, there has been lamentable failure. There is nothing so incongruous as a mind stored with the truths of the Bible, while the heart is unaffected by its precepts, and the life not devoted to the One whom it sets before us.

We close with a few hints for the reading of the “Daily Portion.” Our thought in this is by no means to prescribe a form, but simply to suggest a helpful way of approaching one’s reading:

(1) **Briefly pray** for freedom from distraction, for the Holy Spirit’s illumination, and for grace

(a) To receive what you read in a becoming attitude of soul.

(b) To reflect upon it, with due interest and a desire to become imbued with God’s thoughts.

(c) To retain what is read, for future profit to yourself, and for use in service toward others.

(d) To reproduce what you read in your life—today.

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(2) **Read** the portion, slowly, attentively. Better a small portion read thus, than a larger one hurried over.

(3) Having read, mentally **review** the portion—scarcely, if at all, looking at it.

(4) Make a brief **analysis**. Seek answers to such questions as the following:

(a) Its substance: How can this be summarized? (A good exercise is to try to summarize in a single sentence the contents of a chapter.)

(b) Its structure: How is this portion related to those preceding and following it? What seems to be its place in the general plan of the book? How might the passage be sub-divided? What paragraph headings would suggest the contents of each division? Key-word? Key-phrase?

(c) Its prominences: Prominent subjects, words, persons, doctrines, promises. Perhaps a "memory-verse."

(5) **Application**: What has this portion to say to **ME**? Does it contain promises, precepts, warnings, that I should seek to profit by? What phases of my life does it touch? What is there in it that I can translate into prayer?

(6) **Prayer**: Claim any promises you have been reading. Seek grace to heed warnings and precepts, etc.

(7) In your experience **today**, let it work in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight.

—F. W. SCHWARTZ.

*"Perish policy and cunning!
Perish all that fears the light!
Whether losing, whether winning,
Trust in God and do the right.*

*"Some will hate thee, some will love thee,
Some will flatter, some will slight;
Cease from man, and look above thee,
Trust in God and do the right."*

“EVANGELIST OR MILLIONAIRE — WHICH?”

When filling up the census paper I paused at the column marked “Occupation.” Formerly I was an engineer, but for some years I have given my whole time to Christian work. So I hesitated as to how to describe my present “occupation.” After a few moments of prayerful thinking, I put down: “An Evangelist.”

About the same time I came across a statement made by “one of the most successful men of this generation, Lord Beaverbrook, who, “from humble and obscure beginnings has risen to a commanding position in the world of finance, politics and journalism.” Making a huge fortune in Canada, he went to London, bought a paper and entered politics. Today he controls a powerful chain of newspapers in the British Isles. In a recent article, reviewing his career, he writes:

“The highest kind of power, the supreme source of satisfaction, is the power to do good. **The Evangelist is the man who has the greatest power to do good**, and, therefore, if I was in a position to influence the life of a sincere young man today, I would say to him, **‘Rather choose to be an Evangelist than a Cabinet Minister or a Millionaire.’** When I was a young man, I pitied my father for being a poor man and a humble preacher of the Word. Now that I am older, I envy him his life and his career.” (The Evangelical Christian, Toronto.)

Reading the above statement, coming from such a source, do you wonder that the writer felt more deeply the dignity of his calling? But greater still did he consider the honor conferred upon him when he looked into the Word of God. For there he discovered that Evangelists rank third only to apostles and prophets. “When He (Christ) ascended up on high . . . He gave gifts unto men . . . And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints . . .” (Eph. 4:8-12). But apostles and prophets, in the real sense, have ceased; for they were the “foundation” of the Church or “holy temple” (Eph. 2:20-22); and a foundation is laid first and left, the “building” being put upon it. So that now, **evangelists rank first** in the list of divine appointments “for the edifying of the body of Christ.”

"EVANGELIST OR MILLIONAIRE—WHICH?"

Is the work of an Evangelist rightly estimated in these days? Some outsiders (or should I say observers), as the above quotation shows, place the Evangelist and Evangelism on a higher plane than do many within the ranks. In fact, with some, the gift of Evangelist seems to have lapsed, and Evangelism is reckoned out of date and unnecessary. A Church that ceases to produce Evangelists, or ceases to be Evangelistic, falls short of its mission, and has lost **"the greatest power to do good."**

A leading exponent of the Word of God, some time ago placed his hand upon the writer's shoulder and said, "You have chosen that better part." With this statement Scripture agrees; Evangelism is the "better part" of the Church's work on earth.

Three times in the New Testament do we find the word for Evangelist. The one already referred to reveals the fact that the Evangelist is **divinely given and appointed** to his work, and is God's chief agency for the fulfilling of His purpose for this age of grace, viz., the calling out and upbuilding of His Church.

In another passage we read of **"Philip the Evangelist"** (Acts 21:8). And in Chapter 8, we are given an insight into the work of this, and all true Evangelists. Briefly, it is this:

(1) **He proclaims the evangel** (verses 4, 5, 12, 35, 40). That is, he makes known the good news of salvation for a lost race, through the Lord Jesus Christ. Also, he bases all his preaching and presentation of Christ the Savior upon the Scriptures, the Word of God. An Evangelist must of necessity be "A man of the Book." He must see "Christ in all the Scriptures," in the Old Testament as well as in the New. He presents Him in His sacrificial death as a substitute for sinners; and in His resurrection and exaltation as a Savior who is able to save to the uttermost all who believe in Him.

(2) **He persuades men** to definitely accept and to confess Christ, in such a manner that joy is the experience of the converts. It is "good tidings of great joy" that he makes known.

(3) **He persistently presses on** to other fields and to other souls, gathering in the lost until caught away by the Lord. (It is interesting to note, as one writer has pointed out, that the word for "caught away" in Acts 8:39 is the same as used of

"EVANGELIST OR MILLIONAIRE—WHICH?"

the Church in I Thess. 4:17, "caught up . . . to meet the Lord" "Harpazo" (Greek). "A picture of the ambassador sent into the desert of the world to bring in the last soul ere the coming of the Lord; when the ambassador disappears, the Spirit also goes with him."

(4) **He proceeds homeward** (verse 40 with Acts 21:8), no doubt for rest, recuperation and quiet waiting upon God for further guidance. For these experiences in Acts 8 reveal the fact that he is **divinely commissioned and controlled**.

The third passage in which the word occurs is 2 Tim. 4:5. "Watch . . . endure . . . **do the work of an Evangelist.**" Timothy had other charges and duties to perform, but he must still **keep Evangelism to the fore**. This is of the greatest importance. A preacher who ceases to be evangelistic misses the mark. By this means, souls are reached, reclaimed, regenerated and revived, and the work of God progresses.

Paul, the apostle, was evangelistic to the end. He won souls even when in prison; and from a prison cell he exhorts his son in the faith, Timothy.

A dear brother, well known for his valiant stand for the truth, and who has spent some years in other lands in Gospel work, advised the writer, who was setting out on a long tour through Europe and the Near East, "Keep Evangelism to the front."

The time is short; the need is great, infinitely so; we have the Evangel, the good tidings of salvation, and we do not well if we hold our peace.

As Divinely appointed, guided, instructed and charged, "Do the work of an Evangelist, make full proof of thy Ministry," for the time of our departure is at hand, the coming of our Lord draweth nigh.

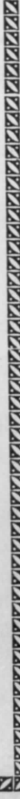

"Preach to reach each."

—John W. Newton.

The art of saying appropriate words in a kindly way is one that never goes out of fashion, never ceases to please, and is within the reach of the humblest.



This Is ALL You Need



“But of Him are ye in
Christ Jesus, Who of God
is made unto us WISDOM,
and RIGHTEOUSNESS,
and SANCTIFICATION,
and REDEMPTION: that,
according as it is written,
he that glorieth, let him
glory in the Lord.”

T. M. O.

1 @r. 1:30, 31.

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