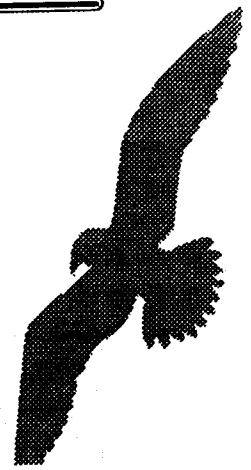


*"They shall  
mount up...*

# ON EAGLES' WINGS

*... with wings  
as eagles."  
Isaiah 40:31*



## AERY NUGGETS

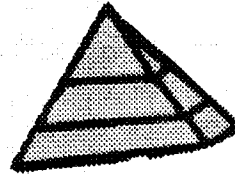
**"TAKE AWAY THE DROSS**  
*From the silver, and there shall come forth  
a vessel for the finer."*

*He sitteth o'er the fining pot  
With patient tender love.  
He doth not set another there  
The work to bend above.  
But on the molten surface rests  
His ever loving eye;  
His hand doth gauge the furnace fire,  
Nor doth He heed our cry.  
But at the perfect moment, when  
Upon the molten mass  
He seeth there reflected bright  
The impress of His face,  
His own right hand removeth it.  
"It is enough," He cries;  
And thus from out our broken hearts  
All nature's dross He tries.*

—H. McD.

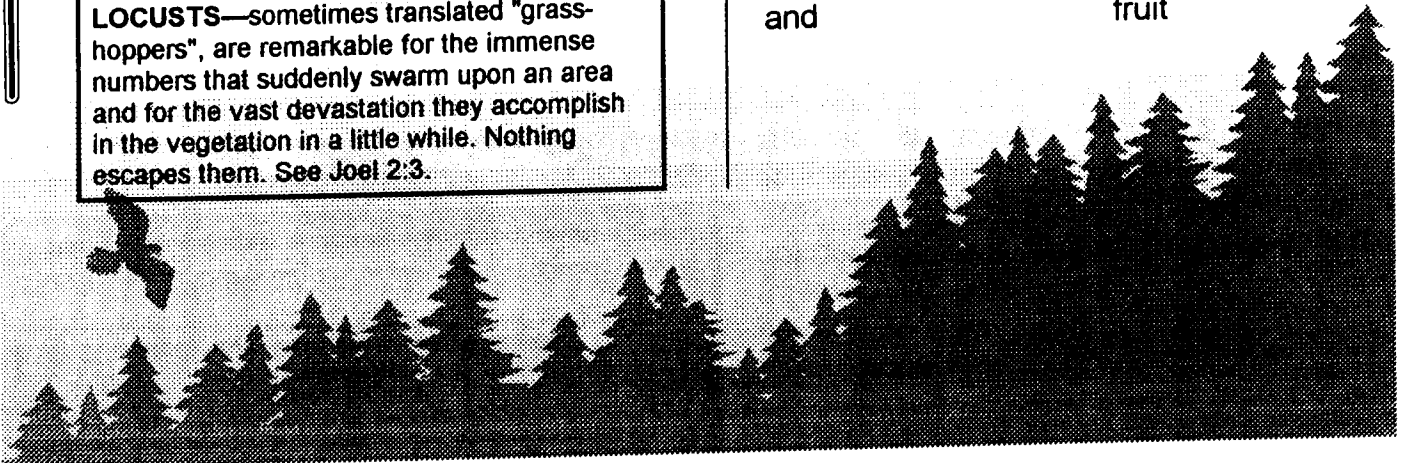
**LOCUSTS**—sometimes translated "grass-hoppers", are remarkable for the immense numbers that suddenly swarm upon an area and for the vast devastation they accomplish in the vegetation in a little while. Nothing escapes them. See Joel 2:3.

In Egypt, enduring rigorous servitude, "the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage. . . and their cry came up unto God" (Ex. 2:23). Meanwhile on the back-side of the desert, while Moses kept



sheep, the Lord appeared to him, "and the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry. . . and am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey" (Ex. 2:7,8).

Though the Egyptian king was very reluctant to let God's people go, their deliverance as accomplished partly by God's use of **locusts**, which arrived on an east wind, filling the Egyptian houses and quickly denuding the land of the remaining crops and fruit



In speaking of the **locust**, Solomon writes, "There be four things which are little upon the earth, but they are exceeding wise. . . the **locusts** have no king, yet go they forth all of them by bands" (Prov. 30:24 & 27).



As a means of chastisement, should Israel not hearken to the voice of the Lord in doing all His commandments, they were warned, "Thou shalt carry much seed out into the field and shalt gather but little in; for the **locust** shall consume it" (Deut. 28:38). And sure enough, in Joel 1:4 we read, "That which the palmerworm hath left hath the **locust** eaten; and that which the **locust** hath left hath the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm hath left hath the caterpillar eaten."

"My great army which I sent among you," is how God characterizes this plague of insects in as is thought, its various stages of development. See Joel 2:25. In His taking the responsibility for sending the **locusts** among His people, doesn't God show us that little things which just seem to happen can be God's voice to us when we have slipped away, to turn us back to Himself. Without questioning God's right to upset our plans or bring annoying circumstances into our lives, let us honestly ask ourselves and God, "What is God seeking to teach me?"

As he dedicated the newly built temple, Solomon included a prayer for the people and nation. Allowing that there might be chastening for personal or national sin by the means of drought, famine, pestilence or **locusts** he asked that, "What prayer and supplication soever be made by any man or by all thy people Israel, which shall know every man the plague of his own heart, and spread forth his hands towards this house: then hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart thou knowest." (I Kings 8:35-39).

With the heart truly brought to feel the plague of sin and it's effects under the chastening hand of God, the question may arise in the offender's mind, "With God's forgiveness, what will the outcome of my loss be?"

God's gracious promise through Joel for a coming day is, "I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten...and ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you." ((2:25,26).

So often in Scripture, types are used to picture something of a similar nature and **locusts** serve as a perfect example of things that God allows to chasten us and at the same time turn us again to Himself. The Psalmist could say, "Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word" (Ps. 119:67).

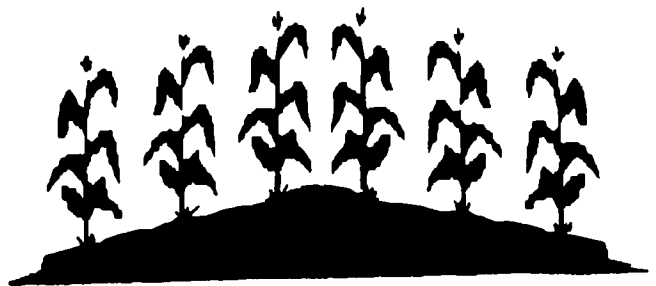
The Apostle Paul, was given a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, that he might not only learn that God's strength is made perfect in weakness, but through it he was able to write the reassuring verse " We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them that are called according to his purpose." (Rom. 8:28)

Sincerely in Christ,

*Leslie L. Winters*

"I walked a mile with Pleasure;  
She chattered all the way,  
But left me none the wiser  
For all she had to say.

I walked a mile with Sorrow,  
And never a word said she,  
But oh, the lessons that I learned  
When Sorrow walked with me."  
Help and Food 1913



For address correction or free new name addition  
please write to:  
Leslie L. Winters