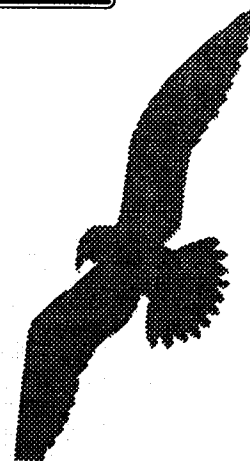


*"They shall
mount up...*

ON EAGLES' WINGS

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



AERY NUGGETS

TRUST

I cannot know if good or ill
My future lot enfold;
But, Lord, I rest in peace, because
Thou dost that future hold.

And though at times my spirit fails,
And weary seems the day,
I grasp Thy hand and follow on
Through all the lonely way.

I care not if the road be rough,
Or filled with flowery ease;
The hardest road with Thee is smooth;
Without Thee none can please.

I would not, Lord, apart from Thee,
Bright wealth or pleasure choose;
And what I have, I pray Thee now,
For Thine own glory use.

Thus may I trust Thy holy Word,
And follow Thy sweet will;
Assured that in the darkest night
Thou art beside me still

— Frederic R. Marvin.

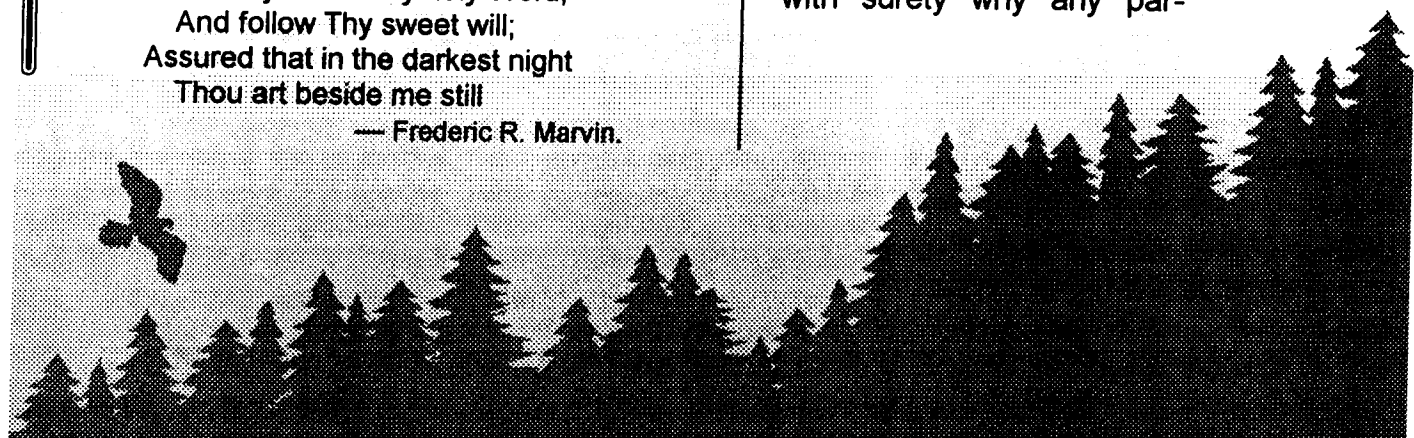
Dear Care-Giver and Care-Receiver,

Following a recent Bible Conference, we extended our trip to visit a graduated Care-Giving Facility wherein were housed several saints who had been figures in my life some sixty years ago. This visit also afforded the opportunity to make friends with other believers, previously unknown to me.

Naturally, the intervening years since seeing these loved ones in the Lord has wrought changes in each one of us, and some of these changes cause sadness to our hearts as we witness the suffering, both physically and emotionally, they have caused.

In love, we can bear up these suffering ones in prayer, while at the same time the question arises in our hearts, "Why do God's children have to suffer so? Is He mindful of their sufferings?"

Though we cannot say with surety why any par-



ticular saint is afflicted, we can be assured that while sickness is the result of the effects of sin in the world, yet our Heavenly Father's purpose is to work all things out to His honor and glory. And yes, He is mindful of the sufferings of each one of His own, for we read in Isaiah 63:8, "In all their affliction He was afflicted," so He feels the suffering of His people, whatever the nature of its cause.

While on the earth, our Saviour displayed great compassion to the sick and infirm, as witness His healing of some afflicted with illness, blindness and the like, but being ascended to heaven, does not lessen His concern for us now, "*For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities*". (Heb. 4:15)

Four days after returning home from this visit, I was unexpectedly hospitalized for heart surgery, and this new infirmity was felt in heaven, at the throne of the One Who rules the universe. Many times since then three words spoken at the Lord's ascension, by angels, keep coming to mind - "**This same Jesus**" (Acts 1:11).

So often when a person in this scene is exalted from a lowly position to a more lofty one, their pride causes them to change, but not so with this Man, Who, though made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, we see crowned with glory and honor, but maintaining the same spirit of tenderness and compassion, as when on earth.

Lessons can and are to be learned through affliction, both by the sufferer and also the care-giver. Job seemed to have the latter in mind when he wrote, "To him that is afflicted pity should be showed from his friend". (6:14).

Present day life styles with less strenuous work requirements, medical knowledge and dietary knowledge has had an effect in the average life span, which was not enjoyed in Bible times though an extension beyond 70 years was predicted to be with "labor and sorrow" (Ps.90:10). Thus, in individual cases, some require long term care due to extended physical or mental disability preceding their Home call.

When he was at the age of 70 it is written, "King David was old and stricken in years", (1 Kings 1:1), while prior to this time he had writ-

ten, "I have been young, and am now old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken," (Ps 37:25). How comforting to know that the One of whom the world sings "He holds the whole world in His hand", left this assurance to all His own, whether young or old, "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you" (John 14:18). So whether a sufferer or care-giver, take heart, that though the way seems long, there is One Who is willing to give His support.

Sincerely in Him, our great Care-Giver,

Leslie L. Winters

PS. Just a personal word to say though my recovery is still in process, I have been feeling fine, and do not feel restricted in my activities. Much loving concern has been manifested by family and the saints, which has been a source of comfort and joy. Thank you all. L.L.W.

BEATITUDES FOR FRIENDS OF THE AGED

BLESSED are they who understand my faltering steps and shaking hand.

BLESSED are they who know that my ears today must strain to catch the words people say.

BLESSED are they who seem to know that my eyes are dim and my wits are slow.

BLESSED are they who looked away when coffee spilled today.

BLESSED are they with cherry smile who stop to chat for a while.

BLESSED are they who never say, "You've told that story twice today."

BLESSED are they who know the ways to bring back lovely yesterdays.

BLESSED are they who make it known that I am loved, not left alone.

BLESSED are they who know the loss of strength I need to bear the cross.

BLESSED are they who ease the days on my journey home in so many ways.

— Esther Mary Walker

Prayer: "Thou that hast given so much to me, give one more thing—a grateful heart; not thankful when it pleaseth me, as if Thy blessings had spare days; but such a heart, whose pulse may be Thy praise."
—George Herbert

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