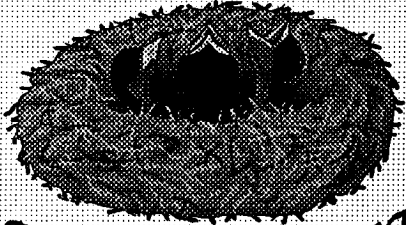


February 2001

*"They shall
mount up...*

ON EAGLES' WINGS

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



AERY NUGGETS

To Our Guests

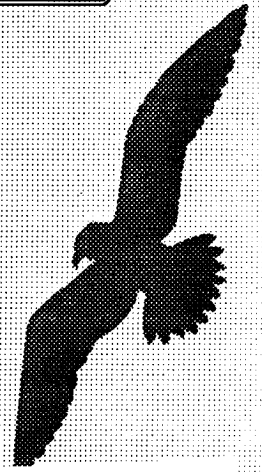
*In ancient times there was a prayer for
"The Stranger within our gates"*

Because this hotel is a human institution to serve people, and not solely a money making organization, we hope that God will grant you peace and rest while you are under our roof. May this hotel be your "second" home. May those you love be near you in thoughts and dreams. Even though we may not get to know you personally, we hope that you will be comfortable and happy as if you were in your own house.

May the business that brought you our way prosper. May every call you make and every message you receive add to your joy. When you leave, may your journey be safe.

We are all travelers. From "birth till death" we travel between the eternities. May these days be pleasant for you, profitable for society, helpful for those you meet, and a joy to those who know and love you best.

*Sincerely,
Management and Staff*



Dear Travelers,

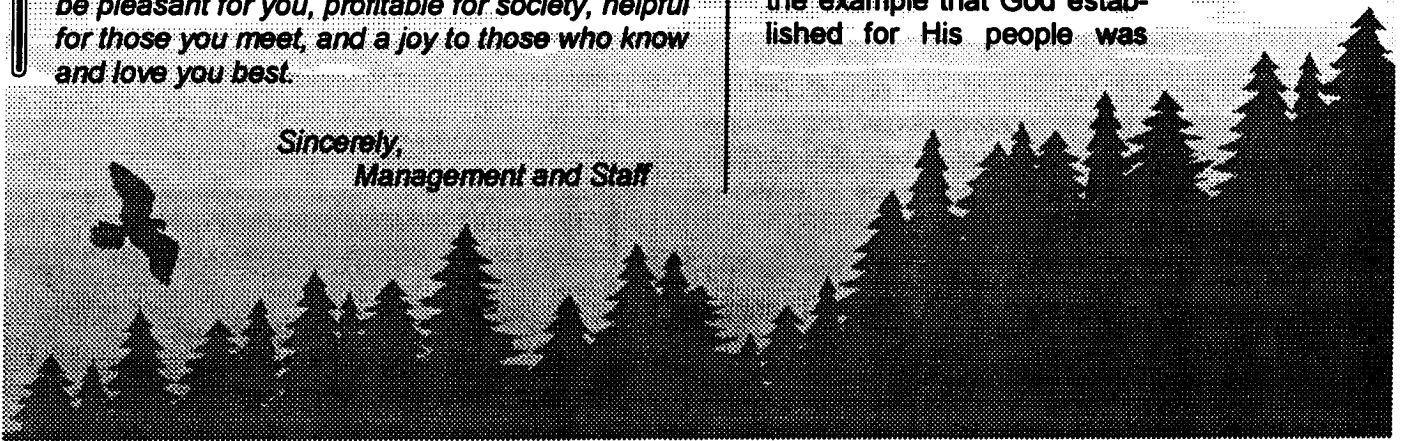
Being road weary with the day's travel and strangers to the highway and area we were traveling through, two well-known motels beckoned to us from the roadside and we succumbed to their entreaty.

The swimming pool out side our motel door held no attraction for us, but we were pleased to see an open Bible on the table, whereas they are usually tucked away in one of the drawers. More about the open Bible later.

After our night's rest, and while preparing for the day, a card on the unused bed caught my eye, and I was so struck with its message that it is repeated in the column to the left.

Doesn't it give a certain amount of comfort to know that those who are ministering to our needs have more in view than the revenue they will make from our patronage?

Being a stranger might lead one to expect to be treated with less consideration than local citizenry, but the example that God established for His people was



otherwise. Strangers within the gates of the people of Israel were -

- to be loved, "Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt." (Deut. 10:19);
- allowed a day of rest: "But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou...nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou." (Deut. 5:14);
- to have spiritual needs considered: "Gather the people together, men and women and children, and thy stranger that is within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear the LORD your God, and observe to do all the words of this law." (Deut. 31:12).



Now, back to the opened Bible (which was not an oversight, but an established house rule of the motel) to see if we can glean a message from the pages to which the Bible had been opened.

- ❖ **"Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem."** (Ps. 122:2). A confident expression of expectation and hope, especially for one who has put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and are journeying towards that heavenly Jerusalem.
- ❖ **"Unto thee lift I up mine eyes, O thou that dwellest in the heavens."** (Ps 123:1). How good, when beset by trials, difficulties and uncertainties of life on earth, to be able to lift our eyes and hearts to the One who is "even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us" (Rom. 8:34) in all our needs.
- ❖ **"If it had not been the Lord who was on our side...then the waters had overwhelmed us."** (Ps. 124:2a, 4a). In ourselves we are so weak, but with Him on our side, "we are more than conquerors through him that loved us", (Rom.8: 37).
- ❖ **"As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people from henceforth even for ever."** (Ps 125:2). What comfort to feel His presence in times of deepest need.
- ❖ **"The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad."** (Ps 126:3). Thankfulness for our blessings rewards God and makes the blessings the sweeter to us.

❖ **"For so he giveth his beloved sleep."** (Ps 127:2c). Surrendering our burdens to the great Burdenbearer, frees our minds and gives peace to enjoy the rest He gives.

Needless to say, we left our refuge of the night refreshed and with the pleasant memories you have just read about. Be mindful of the strangers who come into your life, they may be the Lord's brethren, for He said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." (Matt. 25:40). When Saul, upon obtaining letters of the high priest, set out for Damascus to once again take prisoners of those who were "any of this way", the Lord's brethren, "to bring them bound unto Jerusalem" the Lord Himself intervened, and suddenly, "there shined around Saul a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And he said, Who art thou Lord? And the Lord said, I am

Jesus whom thou persecutest." (See Acts 9:1-5).

When Saul became Paul, one of the Lord's brethren, he admonished all believers, "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." (Heb. 13:2).

Another interesting fact about this overnight stop was that our motel stood in the environs of a town named Hope. This has brought to mind the One, Who in order to give us a hope for eternity, came from heaven's glory to die on the cross. While doing this, He fulfilled Ps. 69:8, which prophetically says of Him, **"I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children."**

Is He yet a stranger to you, or have you come under the shelter of His shed blood and finished work of Calvary?

Sincerely, your fellow traveler,
Leslie L. Winters

"These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth." (Hebrews 11:13)

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