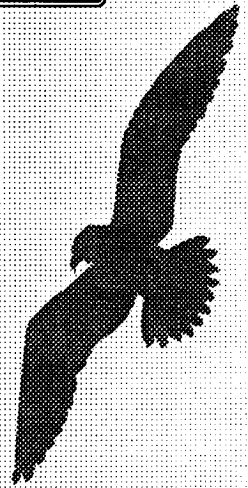


*'They shall  
mount up...*

# ON EAGLES' WINGS

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



## AERY NUGGETS

**"I will bring the blind by a way that they know not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them"**

—Isaiah 42:16.

**"We walk by *faith*, not by *sight*"**  
II Corinthians 5:7

Hast thou wondered WHY He led thee,  
By such strange and lonesome ways \_\_  
WHY thy future lay enshrouded  
In a dark mysterious haze?

Wondered WHY thy feet are guided  
Where the shadows thickly lie \_\_  
WHY the storms, and WHY the darkness,  
WHY that cold and stormy sky?

Hush! He speaks. He whispers to thee,  
'By a way thou hast not known,  
I have led thee by a pathway,  
Marked out solely for My own.' "

—M. E. Rae.

If God explained all His ways with us beforehand we would no longer walk by faith, but by sight. He leads us along strange paths, and through new and peculiar experiences that we may learn how marvelously His grace can sustain, and how blessedly His wisdom can

plan. It is not necessary that we should see the road ahead. It is only necessary that we trust our Guide. He knows the end from the beginning, and He never deviates from His purpose of blessing. When, at last, we have reached the city of God and look back over the way we have come, we shall praise Him for all His dealings with us, and we shall understand the reason for every trial.

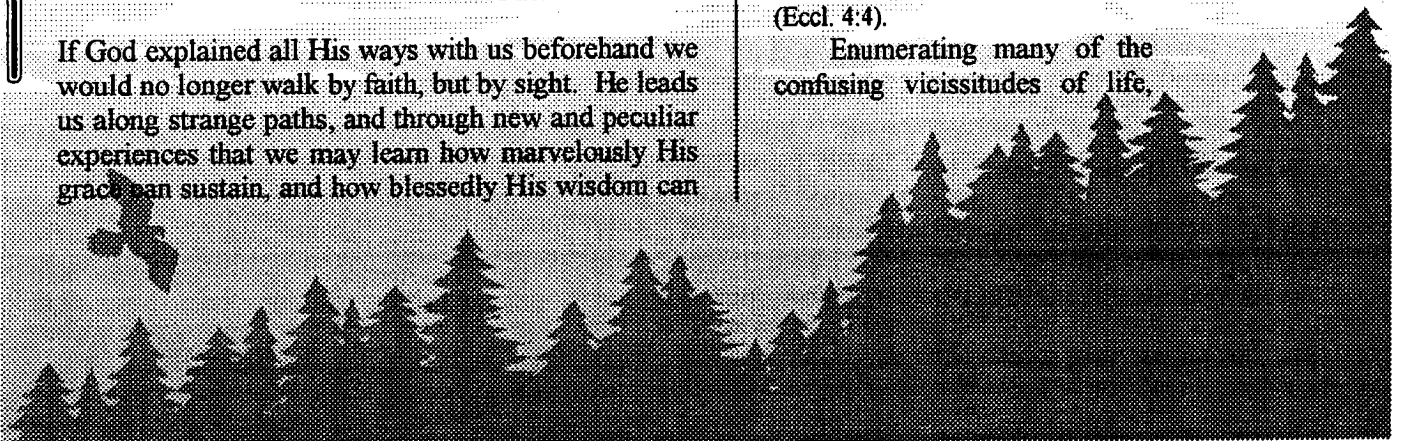
Daily Sacrifice

Dear Friend in Waiting,

As you rolled out of bed this morning, if you are still able to do that actively, did you face the day with the question in your mind, "What is there to look forward to?" I did just that the other day.

From an early point of view, there are so many desirable things to look forward to (sometimes impatiently), such as our birthday, starting school, holidays, getting a drivers license, graduation, working full time, marriage, raising a family, retirement and then what...? At this point some subscribe to a banner which announces, "*I've been there, done that.*" Solomon, the man who could really say, "*Been there, done that,*" after his analytical enjoyment of life under the sun (Eccl. 1:3), could only characterize it with the words, "*Surely this also is vanity and vexation of spirit.*" (Eccl. 4:4).

Enumerating many of the confusing vicissitudes of life,



this very wise man could detect a purpose to the trials of life and said, "I have seen the travail which God hath given to the sons of men to be exercised in it." (Eccl.3:10). The ordinary things of life, and I think especially whatever hinders the fulfillment of our desires, are for our benefit and blessing. Concerning trials of life, we find in Job 33:29 these words, "Lo, all these things worketh God often times with man."

Of course God's initial working with men is to bring them to the realization that He is, and that they need a relationship with Himself. How slow men are to acknowledge that, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23). Those who will take the place of a helpless and lost sinner before God, and trust in the Lord Jesus as the One Who died in their place, not only are made a new creation in Christ Jesus (2 Cor. 5:17), but God, Who has become their Father, will work in them, "Both to will and to do of His good pleasure." (Phil. 2:13).

Now, let's change the pronoun from, "they and them" to, "We and Us", applying things to ourselves. Having brought us to Himself, God is going to continue working in us, though now to conform us to the image of His Son, Who died for us. (Rom. 8:29).

God doesn't produce a masterpiece in just a day or two as we would like to see done, but it will take a lifetime. Are you up to the wait and experience? No of course, not in yourself, nor am I, "But God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able." (1Cor.10:13). Temptation does not necessarily have to do with a solicitation to engage in moral evil, but can include situations which might give rise to the display of *impatience* at having to *wait* so long for some anticipated happening to take place.

Which checkout lane do you choose when ending your shopping spree? The shortest one of course, so you won't have to wait any longer than necessary. Instant gratification seems to be the name of the game in early life (as two of our very young grandchildren are playing out before our eyes), and, we would like instant response to our prayers. But, many times an answer is not forthcoming for some time, testing the reality of our request and thus produces growth in our souls, and tests our faith. Isaiah wrote, "Therefore will the Lord wait, that he may be gracious unto you...blessed are all they that wait for him." (30:18).

Joseph may have thought that time was a wasting for the fulfillment of God's promise that he was to become a ruler in his family, as he ran errands for his father and then sat in prison, but there was a purpose. God was waiting and, "Until the time that his word came: the word of the Lord tried him." (Ps. 105:19).

Is that what is happening to us when our spiritual progress seems to be at a standstill? Has God stopped His work in us? Never!! The apostle Paul could write to the assembly at Philippi "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath

begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil.1:6).

God is not a procrastinator, but He has all the time in the world, so to speak, to complete His work in you and me,... think of the time He uses to grow the more valuable trees of the forest. A college Dean once told and applicant who wanted to take an abbreviated course to gain a certain degree that it took God Almighty 90 years to grow an oak tree, but only 90 days to grow a pumpkin.

Job tells us that, "The waters wear the stones" (Job 14:19), and when David wanted ammunition for his altercation with Goliath he, "chose him five smooth stones out of the brook" (I Sam. 17:40). Why not a jagged pointed stone, which if it found the mark, would penetrate deeply? I think he was more concerned with accuracy, knowing the force of the impact would accomplish its needed work... *as he trusted God*.

Now, these five smooth stones can remind us of Paul's desire that, "In the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding that by my voice I might teach others also..." (I Cor. 14:19). As we grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour we will be better fitted to minister the things of Christ to others.

Going back to rolling out of bed in the morning feeling that the day contains nothing to look forward to, Solomon warned that days would come, "When thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them" (Eccl 12:1). Sitting on my bedside that morning, the Lord brought before me the thought that every living believer should be *looking for* and, "*Waiting for* the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." (I Cor. 1:7). *What a glorious expectation!!!*

Looking and waiting for Him,

*Leslie L. Winters*

"Beyond the bounds of time and space,  
Look forward to that heavenly place,  
The saints' secure abode;  
On faith's strong eagle-pinions rise,  
And force your passage to the skies,  
And scale the mount of God.

Who suffer with our Master here,  
We shall before His face appear,  
And by His side sit down;  
To *patient faith* the prize is sure;  
And all that to the end endure  
The *cross*, shall wear the *crown*."  
— C. Wesley"

"Fear not...; be glad and rejoice: for the Lord will do great things" Joel 2:21

For address correction or free new name addition, write to:  
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