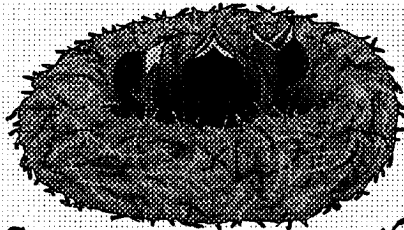
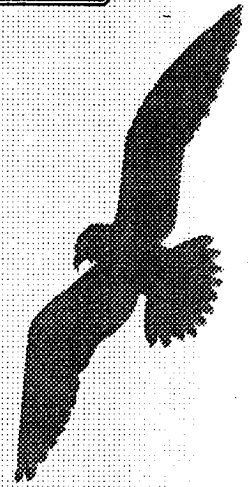


July 2002

*"They shall  
mount up...*

# ON EAGLES' WINGS

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



## AERY NUGGETS

"God is Light, and in Him is no darkness at all."

1<sup>st</sup> John 1:5.

"God is love." 1<sup>st</sup> John 4:16.

O my Savior, glorified!  
Now the heavens, opened wide,  
Show to faith's exultant eye  
One in beauteous majesty.

Worthy of the sweetest praise  
That my ransomed heart can raise,  
Is that Man in whom alone  
God Himself is fully known.

For those clustering glories prove  
That glad gospel, God is Love,  
Whilst those wounds, in glory bright,  
Voice the solemn, God is Light.

Holy Light, whose searching ray  
Brings but into perfect day  
Beauties that my heart must win  
To the Sinless once made Sin!

Hark, my soul! thy Savior sings;  
Catch the joy that music brings;  
And, with that sweet flood of song,  
Pour thy whispering praise along.

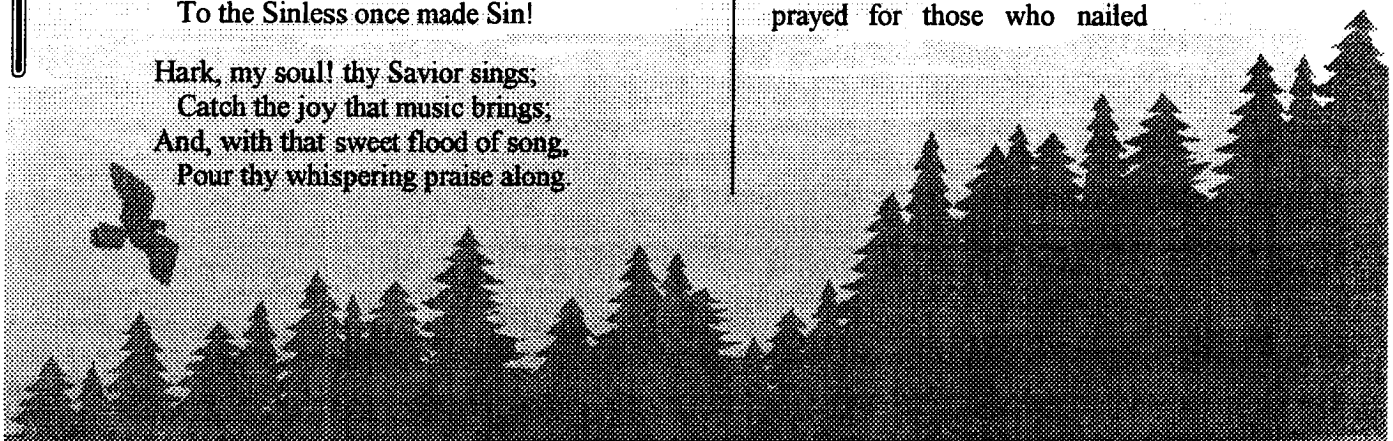
O my Savior, glorified,  
Turn my eye from all beside,  
Let me but Thy beauty see,  
Other light is dark to me.

Author: Fred C. Jennings

Dear Friends,

I have been meditating recently on words that describe the nature or character of God. In this issue I want to call your attention to two simple nouns that describe the nature of God. They are the words, "light" and "love."

We often hear that God is love, and rightly so. We all are familiar with that well-known verse that describes so beautifully God's great love. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16. We find it easy to love those who love us but God's love was unique because He extended His love to us when we were His enemies, sinners and ungodly. Romans 5:6-10. This wonderful love was also displayed when the Lord Jesus prayed for those who nailed



Him to that awful cross. He prayed, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." Luke 23:34.

God's love, is totally different from human love. God loves the unlovable. Someone has written of God's love in the following beautiful words:

"Could we with ink the ocean fill  
And were the skies of parchment made;  
Were ev'ry man a scribe by trade  
And ev'ry blade of grass a quill:  
To write the love of God above  
Would drain the ocean dry  
Nor could the scroll contain the whole  
Though stretched from sky to sky."

Yes, God is love, a truth like this can every gloomy thought remove and turn our tears and woe to bliss —our **God is love.**

But God is not **only love He is also light.** In Him is no darkness at all. "Men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." The darkness makes us think of the sinful condition of men everywhere. Sin is spiritual darkness while light suggests to us God's holiness and righteousness. God dwells in light unapproachable." 1 Timothy 6:16.

How then could a holy righteous God save sinful men from certain judgment and condemnation? Can God overlook man's sin and just tell him, "I forgive you?"

When a man has been found guilty today of a sinful act the law requires that he must pay the penalty. This penalty may include reimbursement to the one who has been wronged or it may mean a prison sentence for the man.

All of us have sinned against God and God has said that the penalty for sin is death and "after death judgment." See Romans 3:23; Hebrews 9:27. The verdict has been given and that verdict is that we all are guilty. See Romans 3:19.

Because **God is light** God cannot righteously forgive us our sins without the penalty being paid.

Because **God is love** He found a way whereby the penalty could be paid and the sinner could be set free. How did He do that? He sent His beloved Son into this sinful world that He might pay the penalty that we owed.

Our Savior suffered, oh, so much at the sinful hands of men, who spit upon Him, beat Him, mocked Him and then nailed Him to the cross. Did the suffering at the hands of men pay the awful penalty? No, the penalty was death and judgment.

After the Lord Jesus had hung on that cross for three hours we read these words "Now from the sixth hour

there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? That is to say, **My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?**" Matthew 27: 46. And then we read that He gave up His spirit.

During those three hours of darkness when He was forsaken by God we read that He bore "**our sins in His own body on the tree,**" "**that He was made sin for us who knew no sin,**" "**that He died for our sins** according to the scriptures." 1 Peter 2:24; 2 Corinthians. 5:21; 1 Corinthians 15:3.

The Lord Jesus was judged for the sins of all those who would put their trust in Him. He then gave up His life. The penalty of death and judgment was fully paid and God could righteously forgive all those who would believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Each one who has accepted the Lord Jesus as their personal Savior can say, "The Lord Jesus took my place and paid in full my penalty." What a Savior! He was forsaken by God that you and I might never be forsaken Is He your Savior? "**God is light and God is love.**" Albert Midlane has expressed the truth of this in the following hymn:

The perfect righteousness of God  
Is witnessed in the Saviour's blood;  
'Tis in the cross of Christ we trace  
His righteousness, yet wondrous grace.

God could not pass the sinner by,  
His sin demands that he must die;  
But in the cross of Christ we see  
How God can save, yet righteous be.

The sin alights on Jesu's head,  
'Tis in His blood sin's debt is paid;  
Stern Justice can demand no more,  
And Mercy can dispense her store.

The sinner who believes is free,  
Can say, "The Saviour died for me;"  
Can point to the atoning blood,  
And say, "This made my peace with God."

In His wonderful love,

*John D. McNeil*

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