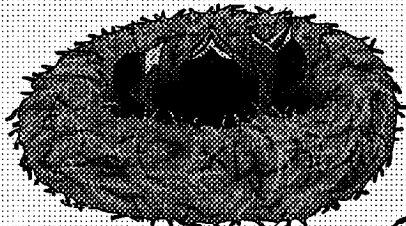
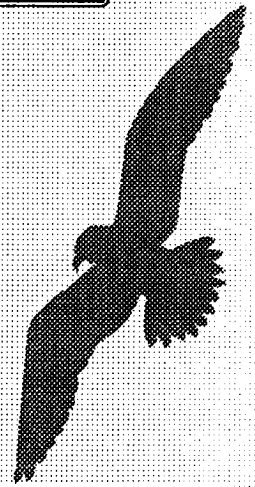


*"They shall
mount up...*

ON EAGLES' WINGS

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



AERY NUGGETS

THE GLORY SHINES BEFORE ME

The glory shines before me!
I cannot linger here!
Though clouds may darken o'er me,
My Father's house is near.
If through the barren desert
A little while I roam,—
The glory shines before me;
I am not far from home!

Beyond the storms I'm going,
Beyond this vale of tears,
Beyond the flood's o'erflowing
Beyond the changing years;
I'm going to the home-land,
By faith long since possessed,—
The glory shines before me,
For this is not my rest!

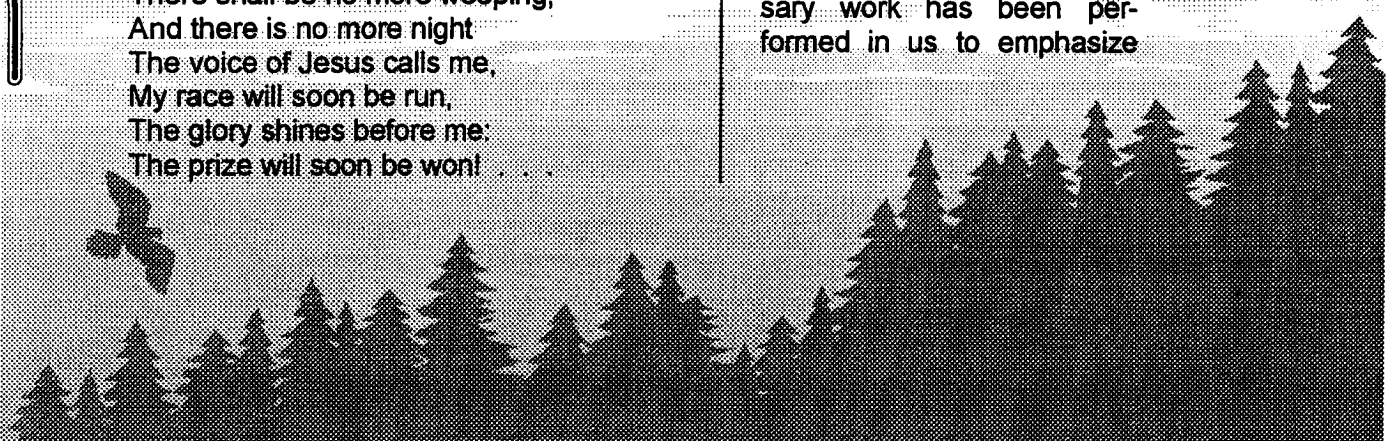
The Lamb is there the glory!
The Lamb is there the light!
There shall be no more weeping,
And there is no more night
The voice of Jesus calls me,
My race will soon be run,
The glory shines before me:
The prize will soon be won!

Dear Dispirited,

Are you walking in the "Slough of Despond" today with little desire to press on and overcome whatever problem is blocking your pathway or bowing down your spirit? Is it all a puzzling question like it was to David, making him wonder to himself, "Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why art thou disquieted within me? (Ps. 42:5).

Most of us can be disheartened so easily through the vicissitudes of life and their effects upon our expectations. Man has an impatient nature, desiring instant gratification or sooner and when this doesn't take place he is quick to lose his incentive in the course that is being pursued, and how applicable is the verse, "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick." (Prov. 13:12).

Going back to Ps.42, the writer continues verse 5 with the words, "Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance." While our loving God and Father never deserts His own, He may withhold the sense of His presence and help until necessary work has been performed in us to emphasize



our need of submission to Himself.

"Heaviness in the heart of man maketh it stoop" (Prov. 12:25), and Satan finds a very useful tool in discouragement, using it like a wedge to drive into the least crack in our armour, seeking to instigate a rift between ourselves and God. Allowing ourselves to sink into a state of doldrums provides fertile ground for our enemy's fiery darts and suggestive doubts of God's love and help.

Though we might have 20:20 vision, yet we often experience an ocular handicap known as nearsightedness, pertaining to spiritual things especially. Think of Peter on a dark and stormy night out on the sea, beholding the Lord walking on the water. Following His invitation, Peter with his eyes on the Lord, started his walk, but as soon as he changed his focus from the Lord to the boisterous wind, which was making waves of his walking surface, he became fearful and began to sink (Matt 14:22-32).

How much we need to learn that whatever the Lord expects of us He will enable us to carry out, though there may be some personal cost involved. When the children of Israel set forth from Egypt, they had as their destination, a promised land flowing with milk and honey, Ex. 13:5. After a protracted journey of over a year, which could have been made in something like eleven days, this great company drew near to what could have been their journey's end. In order to give the people advance knowledge of the land and its benefits, God had Moses send 12 spies into the land with a specific exhortation to be of good courage and bring back of the fruit of the land. In spite of a glowing report of the fruitfulness of the land, 10 of the spies discouraged the people from going in to possess the land from its present inhabitants. The plea of Joshua and Caleb that they were well able to overcome these people went unheeded, as did the silent appeal of the land's bounty. (Num.13).

Discouragement led to rebellion against the commandment of God and provided the fertile soil for doubts of God's loving kindness to spring up, and in their tents they would say, "Because the Lord hated us, he hath brought us forth out of the land of Egypt, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us" (Deut.1:27). Consequently, the Lord would not lead them into His promised land and they wandered another 38 years before they were ready to claim the promise.

At this time of the year many are suffering from cabin fever and the winter blahs. This morning as I went into town, after last night's snow storm, complaints abounded about conditions, but soon the sun came out and things looked so much different. Isn't it just like God to send the shining after rain, and He's not partial either, for we read, "He maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good." (Matt. 5:45).

A popular song of the day has a line about, "I didn't promise you a rose garden", and I think many of us anticipate just this upon receiving Jesus as Saviour. Then when trials that are common to all men or suffering as a Christian come into our lives, we lose heart and become discouraged. I Peter 4:12 was written to just such believers. "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you": (here is that nearsightedness kicking into play, when a farsighted view gives an altogether different perspective), "But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy."

Jacob had to learn through some years of suffering, separation and of which he said, "All these things are against me" (Gen. 42:36), were eventually shown to be for his benefit and blessing.

We noticed that while Peter had his eyes on the Goal, the Lord Jesus, circumstances were no obstacle, but with the eyes turned from the Goal to circumstances, he began to sink. Just so with us, we need to be, "Looking unto Jesus the Author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him...lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds." (Heb. 12:2&3).

Our protection from discouragement in the way cannot come from our own efforts or strength, but must come through the Lord, having our hearts on the Goal set before us, and our inheritance in Christ, knowing that, "We have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given us of God." (I Cor 2:12).

Yours for our mutual encouragement and a glimpse of the glory *Brother Leslie L. Winters*

The glory shines before me!
I know that all is well!
My Father's care is o'er me,
His praises I would tell.
The love of Christ constrains me,
His blood has washed me white;
Where Jesus is in glory,—
'Tis home! And love! And light!

—Hannah K. Burlingham

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