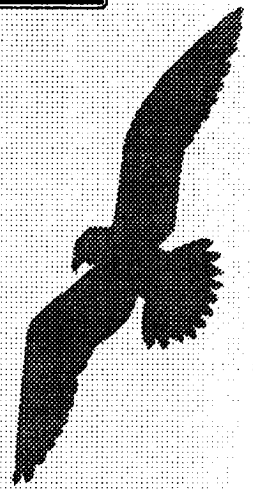


*"They shall  
mount up...*

# ON EAGLES' WINGS

*... with wings  
as eagles."*

*Isaiah 40:31*



## AERY NUGGETS

Take Time To Be Holy

Take time to be holy  
Speak oft with thy Lord;  
Abide in Him always,  
And feed on His Word.  
Made friends of God's children;  
Help those who are weak;  
Forgetting in nothing  
His blessing to seek.

Take time to be holy,  
The world rushes on;  
Spend much time in secret  
With Jesus alone,  
By looking to Jesus,  
Like Him thou shalt be;  
Thy friends in thy conduct  
His likeness shall see.

Take time to be holy,  
Let Him be thy Guide,  
And run not before Him,  
Whatever betide;  
In joy or in sorrow,  
Still follow thy Lord,  
And, looking to Jesus,  
Still trust in His Word.

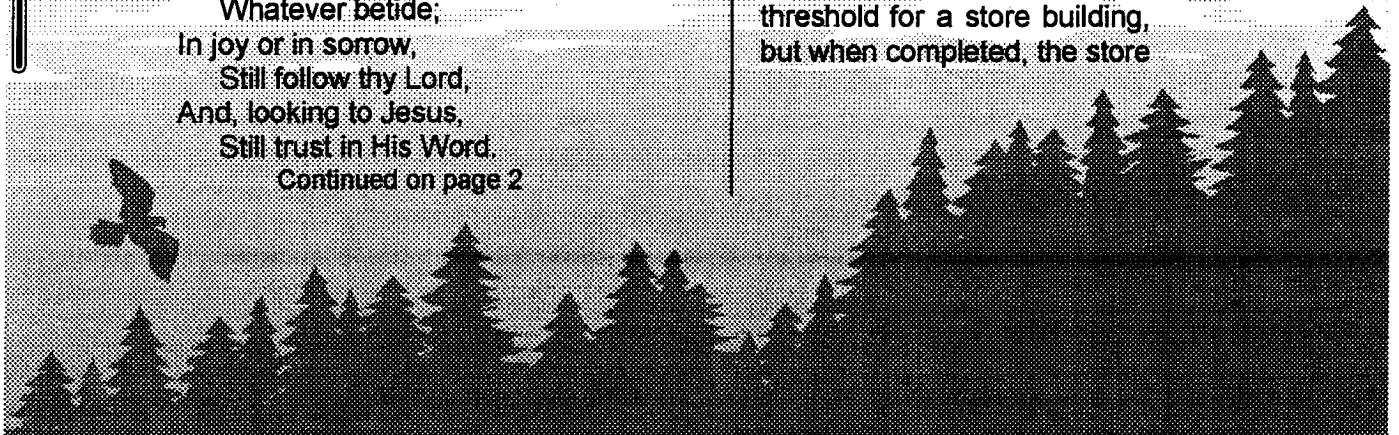
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Dear Concerned and Unconcerned,

My thoughts have been turned recently to the ninth question recorded in God's Word which man has faced since the days of Cain and Abel. In response to God's inquiry of Cain as to the whereabouts of his brother, his pretended ignorance was followed by that famous question. "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Gen. 4:9). The Lord's response, plus the body of Scripture indicates and affirmative answer.

Perhaps you noticed that I addressed you as either, "Concerned or Unconcerned", which really characterizes all people in regard to their brother. And who is my brother? A similar question was asked of the Lord Jesus by a lawyer when told to love his neighbor as himself. "And who is my neighbor, he asked?" (Luke 10:29). By the example given, we learn that it is anyone we can be of service to.

Being our brother's keeper is carried out in many ways, and is not limited just to Christians. Here is a simple example. Years ago I was asked to make a wooden threshold for a store building, but when completed, the store



owner wanted it changed so that it would not present a tripping hazard, and cause people to get hurt. Most home homeowner and auto insurance policies have public liability clauses to reimburse someone suffering damage from our hands or property.

While the world does go to great lengths in some areas to protect the uncautious, unwary or helpless, I would like with the Lord's help to explore some thoughts as to how we can be our brother's keeper in a moral way and at the same time not become a victim to his possible lack of consideration for us.

Proverbs 15:1 contains the words, "Grievous words stir up anger", and the user's common thought is, "People will have to take me as I am", and yes we do, heeding the same verse which tells us, "A soft answer turneth away wrath." On the other hand I am exhorted, "To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, showing all meekness unto all men" (Titus 3:2).

One of the things to be added to our faith is "Brotherly kindness," listed following "Godliness" in 2 Peter 1:6. This is not just to be shown to those near and dear to us, but the Lord enjoined His own, "Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you" (Luke 6:17).

You and I are to be held accountable for any failure we are responsible for in our brother. "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God. Let us not therefore judge one another any more, but judge this rather, that no man put a stumbling block nor an occasion to fall in his brother's way" (Romans 14:12,13).

There are without doubt many ways we might cause our brother to stumble. I would like to suggest that a common potential one in today's world, for example, is the provocative clothing that many of both genders don, especially when engaging in outings designed for rest and relaxation, with seeming little consideration for the thoughts their garb might stimulate in the minds of those around them. Granted, one does have the responsibility to bring his thoughts into captivity, "Bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ" (2 Cor.10:5). But should he stumble, there seems to be an equality of fault.

Jesus makes it clear that, "It must needs be that offenses come; but woe to that man by whom the offense cometh!" (Matt.18:7). Certainly, clothing is but one avenue by which offenses or stumbling can be caused.

In the love Chapter, 1 Cor. 13, we find allusion to the two way street we believers are called upon to traverse. First, we learn that love, "Seeketh not her own" (v 5). Our love for our brother will not take advantage of him for our own benefit. Second, it is made clear that love, "Is not easily provoked" (v.5). Do you or I have a short fuse that is easily lighted by a sharp or unkind word which provokes us to retaliate in like manner? This is not the evidence of a loving response or a forgiving spirit.

Being our brother's keeper leads me to Heb. 10:24. "Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works." The work of Christ was certainly manifest in Saul of Tarsus, when we see him transformed from one who went about persecuting those who trusted in the Saviour, to exhorting the practice of considering one another. We are for the most part naturally inconsiderate of those around us, but what a change should come about when our hearts have been indwelt by the Holy Spirit who sheds abroad in our hearts the love of God, in Christ. One's desire then should be to stir up one another to display love, and performance of good works.

What better way can we carry this out than by taking heed to 1 Tim. 4:12, which exhorts young Timothy to, "Be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity."

### **Yes we are our brother's keeper!!**

Your brother by His grace,

*Leslie L. Winters*

Take time to be holy,  
Be calm in thy soul;  
Beneath His control;  
Thus led by His spirit  
To fountains of love,  
***Thou soon shalt be fitted  
For service above.***

William D. Longstaff

For address correction or free new name addition,  
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