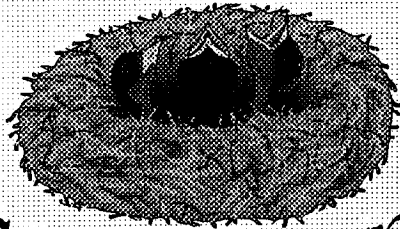
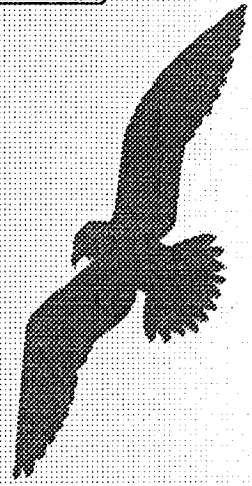


*"They shall  
mount up...*

# ON EAGLES' WINGS

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



## AERY NIGGERS

Dear Fellow Workmen,

June! A time for lists to be made (for you) or to make for someone other than yourself. Oh the work of it all - painting, cutting, trimming, planting, digging. God gave numerous lists in the Bible you know also. There was one for Adam and Eve concerning what they could and could not eat. Noah! Now there was a list that any zoo would be proud of!

Most of our list for this time of year involves maintenance of our living place. Like Solomon of old said, "By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through idleness of the hands the house droppeth through" (Eccl. 10:18). There is worthy value to diligent maintenance of what God has given us, and that leads to this!

Where is God on our list? Is He right below cleaning the gutters or washing the white walls? Do we ever wake up Saturday morning and say, "Lord, what can I maintain for You today, before I start my list? Is there someone I need to talk to, or work needing to be done on the actual building where the Lord's people meet?" May these words encourage us to put the Lord first in our life.

But wait! dear ones taking time out to read this, there's another list, and your name needs to be on it. It's a list of names in the Lamb's book of life, of those who have accepted the Lamb of God as their Saviour, and thus escaped the second death and the lake of fire. "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Rev. 20:15). If you don't know the Lamb of God (Jesus) you need to become acquainted right now: *forget putting it on a list!* "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29).

We were just reminded in the preceding words of work needing to be done, and especially the Lord's work. In many trades, there are various tools required to perform

the needed task. Keeping tools near the user cuts down wasted time on the job or a need to procrastinate in doing it. That's why we put wheels on tool boxes.

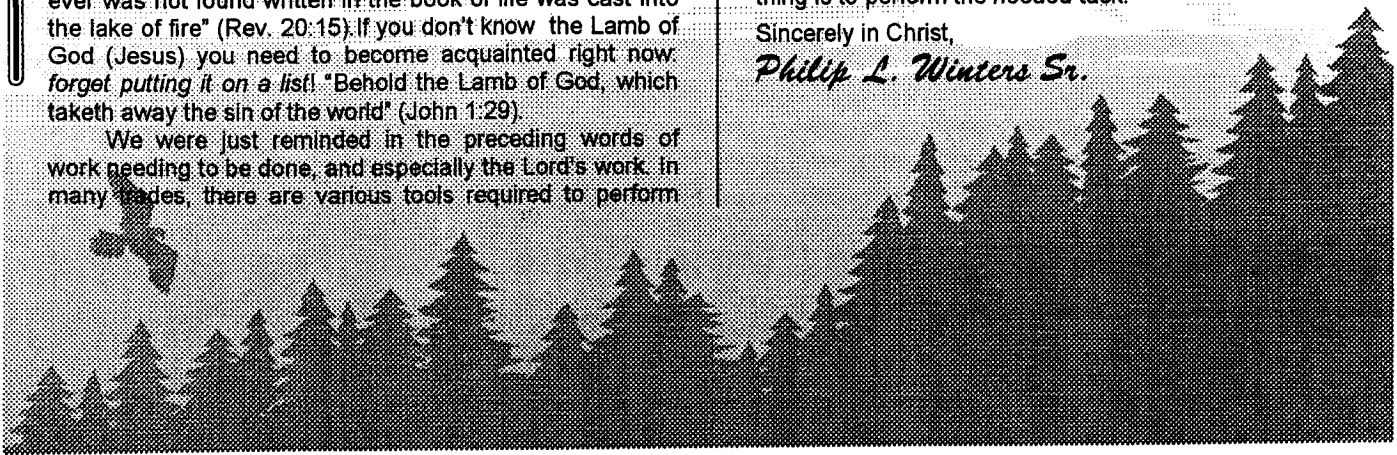
God too, has given us a tool box of a different type and most of the time it's too small to need wheels; but it does need to be near our job site, or just near us at all times. If it isn't, we generally procrastinate in using it till some other time. The Bible is what I had in mind: the words are like tools used to shape us, or tools we can use to help others. "The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and that which was written was upright, even words of truth. The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies, which are given from one shepherd" (Eccl. 12:10 & 11). "Is not my word like as a fire? saith the Lord; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces" (Jer. 23:29)?

What a wonderful tool box! Too bad it's downstairs, or at home, and I'm not. Now God had a solution for this situation for his people Israel; they were to tie portions of God's word to their hands, and write them on their doorways. "Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. . . And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates" (Deut. 11:18 & 20).

Wait! don't start writing on the walls yet; maybe it would be more effective to just get some cheaper Bibles, and place them at locations you frequent often. I know they don't feel the same as your favorite, but they'll do the job. We all have our favorite rake, shovel, hammer or spoon, but remember, the important thing is to perform the *needed* task.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Phillip L. Winters Sr.*



God's word is like a hammer,  
 That breaketh the rock in twain;  
 A lamp to guide our footsteps  
 And a light on the stormy main;  
 A sword that has two edges  
 And a mirror ourselves to see  
 Oh yes this is the book of books'  
 The **B-I-b-I-e**.

Jesus said to Peter in Matt. 16:17, "Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona; for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter; and upon this rock *I will build* my Church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The Apostle Peter refers to this in the second chapter of his first epistle, when he says, "To whom coming, as unto a *living* stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, ye also, as *living stones* [same words], are built up" 1Pet.2:5\_\_C.J.Davis

"All who believe are partakers of His risen, victorious, *rock* life. The life of Christ, the Son of the living God, flows through all His members, and through *each* in particular. Thus we have the *living* God, the *living* Stone, and *living* stones. It is all life together—life flowing down from a living source, through a living channel, and imparting itself to all believers, thus making them living stones." The life of the living Stone, tried and tested in every possible way, come forth victorious, will never pass that way again. He has passed through death and judgment. He had gone down under all the waves and billows of divine wrath, and come forth, at the other side, in *resurrection*, in divine glory and power—a life victorious, heavenly, and divine, beyond reach of all powers of darkness.

"There is (for the believer) no power of earth, hell, men or devils, that can possible touch the life which is possessed by the very smallest and most insignificant *stone* in Christ's assembly. All believers are built upon the *living Stone*, Christ; thus constituted *living stones*; He makes them like Himself in every respect save in His incommunicable Deity. Is He a living Stone? Believers are living stones. Is He a precious stone? They are precious stones. Is He a rejected Stone? They are rejected stones—rejected, disallowed of men. They are in every respect identified with Him. Ineffable privilege!!

"This is the solid foundation of the *Christian priesthood* of all believers. Before offering up spiritual sacrifices, one must come to Christ in simple faith, being built on Him as the foundation of the whole spiritual building. It is contained in Scripture, "Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner-stone, elect, precious; and he that believeth in Him shall not be confounded, Isa.28:16; 1 Pet.2:6. "We are not called to assist in laying the foundation—that foundation is Christ. God laid it, we *believe* it and *rest* thereon. He is faithful and we shall never be confounded; never ashamed. Never come into judgment (Jn.5:24). Free of guilt and condemnation as that living *Rock* on whom all who believe are built. Are you, believer, satisfied with God's foundation??

Are you seeking to *add* your own works, prayers, ordinances, vows, resolutions, religious duties? If so you are seeking to add jots and tittles to God's Christ. You may be assured you will be *confounded*!! God suffers not such dishonor to be offered to His tried, elect, precious chief—*corner Stone*.

"Let's look at the superstructure. "To whom coming as unto a living stone ye also, as living stones, are built up a spiritual house, an *holy* priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God *by* Jesus Christ, 1 Pet.2:5. All believers are holy priests; through grace made priests, and such the moment we believed, being born of God; privileged to draw nigh and offer priestly sacrifices. We are to offer up *spiritual sacrifices*, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ—"By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually,—the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name.", Heb.13:15. This is the true character of sacrifice holy priests offer to God. Not alone when the current of worship abounds, but it is, "praise *continually*."

"Believers walk in the sunlight of the divine presence, new creation, where is aught for a discontented mind to feed upon. Fixed principle: When one hears one pouring out a string of complaints about circumstances and about neighbors, such is not realizing the place of *holy* priesthood, consequentially, not exhibiting ones practical fruits. The believer, though tried 1000 times, brings his trials to God in communion, not to his fellow-man in complaining. "**Hallelujah!**"—the proper utterance of the very feeblest member of the Christian priesthood.

"The Apostle continues—"But ye are a chosen generation, a *royal* priesthood...that ye should show forth the virtues of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light, 1Pet.2:9, completing the picture of Christian priesthood. **Holy** priests draw nigh to God, presenting the sacrifice of praise. **Royal** priests go forth among their fellow-men in the details of practical daily life, showing forth the graces; the lovely, moral features of Christ; emitting the fragrance of the grace of Christ, showing forth His virtue, this alone becoming of the *royal* priesthood. Our own ease, interest, enjoyment, seeking ones own ends, caring about ones own things, is not a royal priest at all. Christ never did so; believers are called to show forth His virtue.

"He grants to His own in this time of His absence to anticipate the day when He shall come forth as a **Royal Priest**, and sit upon His throne, Zech. 6:13, and send forth the benign influence of His dominion to the ends of the earth...

"The actings of the royal priest are not confined to giving of finances alone. Peter, on one occasion, said without shame, "Silver and gold have I none"; yet upon that moment was acting as a royal priest, by bringing the precious virtue of the name of Jesus to bear on the impotent man, Acts 3. The blessed Master Himself never possessed a penny, but He went about doing good; nor need we money to do so. Yet discernment is needed, for we do not want to take others off the ground of honest industry, making them dependent upon human alms. What riches are required to speak kindly, drop a tear of sympathy, give soothing, genial looks?

"Here is a vivid illustration, Acts 16:34—Paul and Silas were thrust into a prison's innermost depths; backs covered with stripes; feet fast in stocks; in the darkness of the midnight hour. No complaint, but praise. Here were two really "living stones", and nothing that earth or hell could do could hinder the life that was in them expressing itself in its proper accents. They were 'partakers' of the *rock life*, the victorious, resurrection life of Christ, employing themselves as **holy priests** offering the spiritual sacrifices of praise to God. They were really in trying circumstances; but they were as living stones and holy priests; they had "the virtues of Him who had called them out of darkness into His marvelous light."

"Those 'virtues' shone out in the touching words addressed to the jailer, "Do thyself no harm", the accents of a **royal priest**, just as the song of praise was the voice of a **holy priest**. The *voices* of the **holy priests** went directly up to the throne of God and did their work there; and the *words* of the **royal priests** went directly to the jailer's hard heart and did their work there. God was glorified and the jailer saved by two men *rightly* discharging the functions of "**the Christian priesthood**." —By, C.J.Davis, from his book, Present Truth for Christian Life, Worship, and Service. (Condensed to fit the "On Eagles' Wings" page for this issue. )

"Except the Lord *build* the house, in vain do its builders labour in it;" (Psalm 127:1 J.N.D.).

For address correction or free new name addition,

write to:

Leslie L. Winters

or

Christine Albury