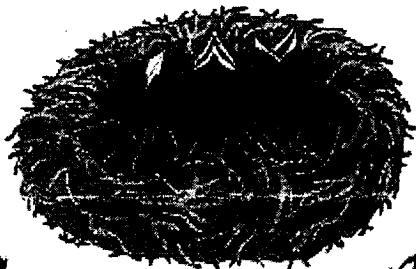
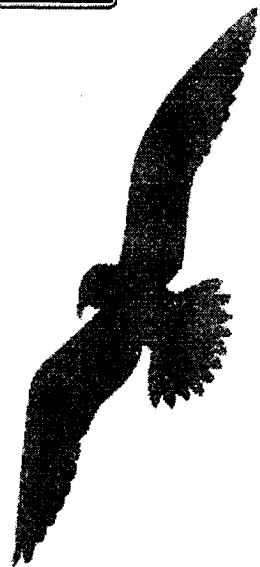


*"They shall
mount up...*

ON EAGLES' WINGS

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



AERY NUGGETS

**April 2012 Reflections on Psalm 34
in the light of the New Testament**

While in its direct application the Psalm speaks of Christ addressing a godly remnant in a time yet to come, there is a precious application in the present age for those righteous in Christ. Forever are the precepts of God's government, for they are sure and forever are they constant. He changes not!

"I will Bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together." Vs 1-3

How can we not see that continual praise leads the pure in heart to gather together to worship the Father?

"Let us draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering: (for he is faithful that promised:) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves, as the manner of some is: but exhorting one another:"
Heb 10: 22-25.

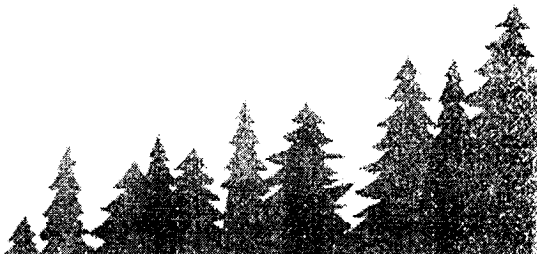
And with Christ leading:

*"I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee."
Psalm 22:22*

It is the desire of Christ that His people be occupied with Him. Jesus when confronted by Martha concerning her sister Mary's apparent lack of service rebuked her saying:

"Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her." Luke 10:41-42

Sadly many believers are like Martha careful of many things of this life and troubled by circumstances. Preoccupied with making this world a better place. Taken-up with the fears inspired by an unbelieving world.





This praise is not contingent on favorable circumstances for it is at "all times". There is a prerequisite: "I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears." Vs. 4 "This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles." Vs. 6

"Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: 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." 1Pet 4:12-13.

And so we must learn through the trials of our faith that He is the resource that meets our every need, even that which draws us closer to Him. We must be broken of self that we may be filled with Christ that we may bless him at "all times".

"O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him." Vs. 8 "The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit." Vs. 18

"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." I Corth 4:7

Then we too can truly own the words of the apostle when he encouraged the Philippians saying; "Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice." Phil 4:4 "Be careful about nothing: but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Phil 4:6-7.

If we be broken and have tasted and are now filled with Christ, then what will characterize our walk here?

"Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good: seek peace, and pursue it." Vs 13-14

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true...honest... just... pure... lovely...of good report; (if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things)." Phil 4:8



There is no thought here that we should be actively engaged in conflict to correct the wrongs of this world, its evil ways, to make it a better place, or even that we should fight for our rights.

"The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry." Vs. 15 "The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles." Vs. 17

Nor should we be surprised that we may be the victim, even the target of evil ways and ambitions,

"Many are the adversities of the righteous, but Jehovah delivereth him out of them all:" vs.19 (JND)

This conflict is the Lord's and he will deal with it in his time.

"The face of the Lord is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth." Vs. 16

"The Lord knows to deliver the the godly out of trial, and to keep the unjust to the day of judgment to be punished:" 2 Peter 2:9 (JND)

The Lord blesses the righteous, he judges evil. His government is sure his ways are constant throughout the ages.

Bob Niebling.

Lo From Vessels, Earthen Only

Lo, from vess-sels, earthen only,
Shining forth in ceas-less grace,
Reaching weary hearts, and lonely,
Beams the light from Je-su's face!

Vessels, broken, frail, yet bearing
Through the hungry ages on
Riches giv'n with hand unsparing—
God's great Gift, His precious Son!

O to be but empty, lowly,
Mean, unnoticed and unknown,
— Yet to God a vessel holy,
Filled with Christ, and Christ alone!

Nought of earth to cloud the Glory!
Nought of self the Light to dim!
Telling forth Christ's wondrous story:
Broken, empty ---filled with Him!

#181 Hymns of Grace and Truth

OEW welcomes the submission of articles to be considered for publication. If so led, please forward to Bob Niebling at rc

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