



THE GOOD NEWS MESSENGER

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He Careth for You

Talk 52

By C. W. Naylor - From "Heart Talks"

"Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you" (1 Pet. 5:7). God cares for us in the sense of having a personal interest in us. We are the work of his hands, and as such he is interested in our prosperity. He watches over the development of our lives; he notes every step of progress. The one who plants a flower, waters it, cares for it, and watches the development of each tiny shoot and bud, cares more for that flower and has a deeper interest in it than has the one who merely stops for a few minutes to admire its full-blown beauty and to enjoy its fragrance. To the one it is only one plant out of many, but to the other it has a special meaning and attraction and worth, because its bloom and fragrance are the result of his labor, care, and patience. It is his plant. So it is with God. He gave us our being; he has nourished and protected us and watched us develop day by day; he is interested in us and desires our lives to bloom and send forth a fragrance of trueness and purity all around. Let us so live that he will not be disappointed in us.

He cares for us because he created us for his glory and to fill a place in his eternal kingdom. He created us, not merely that we might have an existence, but for a purpose for himself. He wants us to make a success of our lives, not simply for our own advantage, but to fill the place for which he created us for his purpose and glory. And because of this he will use every endeavor to help us succeed in our lives.

He cares for us in the sense that he loves us. "The Father himself loveth you." "I have loved thee with an everlasting love." "God so loved the world." He has a deep and abiding affection for every soul, and even when we stray away from him into the depth of sin, his heart yearns over us as a mother over her erring boy, only his love is stronger than a mother's. He sends his servants out

to seek the lost, and his Spirit to plead with them. Sinner, he loves you. Though you have grieved him and have repelled his Spirit over and over again, yet his eye beams with pity, his heart is tender with love, and his arms are outstretched toward you to welcome you to his embrace.

If he thus cares for the rebellious and neglectful sinner, how much does he care for his obedient, loving children! How tender his love! Sometimes in a dark and troublesome hour when his face seems hidden, we may feel as did the disciples when they cried out in their distress, "Carest thou not that we perish?" Ah, he did care. At once he arose and rebuked the elements and brought the disciples safely to the land. Yea, he *does* care. "He careth for you." His help may sometimes seem delayed, but it will come and just at the time to be most effective. In your joys and victories and seasons of refreshing he cares for you and also in the time of trial, of persecution, of heaviness and longing, and of bitterness of soul. In it all he cares, and he will bring you through when he sees the soul refined and fitted for his purpose. "He careth for you." Believe it. Let your soul exult in it and shout aloud. Or if you can in your sorrow only whisper it, let your heart still say: "He loves and cares. I will trust him and be content."

Again, he cares for us in the sense of taking care of us. His care is proved in his making so beautiful a world our home. The flowers, the fruits, the grains, the grasses, the animals, the sunshine, the winds, the rains, and all were made to minister to man's need, comfort and happiness. For us these exist. That we may be fed, he causes the earth to bring forth bountifully. That we may be clothed, he makes the cotton and the flax to grow out

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For More than the Manger

Now is the time of year when people starting thinking about and planning for the Christmas season. This is a very busy season, and it's good for us to stop and think about why we celebrate it. Yet, the focus of this season often goes no further than the "baby in the manger." The manger was just a part of God's plan of salvation. In reality, the story begins long before the manger, and continues clear up until today.

Back in the garden of Eden, Adam and Eve disobeyed God. God didn't want to just leave them as they were, so he came up with a plan that would make it possible for him to be both just and merciful. He spent many, many years laying the

groundwork for the arrival of his Son. He chose the Israelites as his special people, so that he could demonstrate to us the values that he expected in the life of his greatest creation - mankind. He gave the Israelites the law, so that they could start to see the difference that God made between pure and impure, between good and evil, between holiness and sin. He gave them the promises of a coming Savior. He was patient with them; putting up with far more than he had to. They knew him as a God to fear and respect, but he wanted something more. He wanted us to love him.

He had a special plan for showing us his love.

(continued on page 2)

He Careth for You (cont'd from pg. 1)

of the soil, the wool upon the sheep, and causes the silkworm to spin its glossy house. That we might be warmed, he made the coal, the gas, and the forests. That we might be protected, he made the stone, the wood, the iron, and the clay that we might have houses.

He cares also for our bodies, that we may have health. He gives us pure crystal water to quench our thirst and cool us in fever, balmy oxygen-laden air to build us up, and countless other blessings. Above all this, he is himself to us a Great Physician whose word heals our suffering bodies and takes us out of the grasp of death.

He cares for us spiritually, giving us grace to help in every time of need - to shield in temptation, to strengthen in trial, to make strong in adversity, courageous in danger, and valiant in conflict.

Truly he cares for us. Let us doubt and fear no more, but commit ourselves to him, knowing that he will "in no wise fail" us.

For You
By D. S. Warner

Jesus drank the cup of sorrow,
In this world of sin and strife;
We bestowed the thorny garland,
He returns a crown of life.

O how kind, how meek and lowly!
What a friend forever true!
In each thought and action holy
Jesus *lived*, he *lived* for you.

Jesus suffered in his body,
'Neath our awful load of sin.
Till his sweat dropped dark and bloody,
And the cross was raised for him.
There he died our souls to ransom,
Heaven's image to renew:
O what depth of love and mercy!
Jesus *died*, he *died* for you.

Jesus entered death's cold chambers,
Shed his light within the tomb,
Overcame the foe's grim terror,
And dispelled the mortal gloom.
From the grave he came triumphant,
Life eternal brought to view,
All the fears of death to banish—
Jesus *rose*, he *rose* for you.

O behold the love of Jesus!
Sinner, can you turn away?
See, he gave his life so precious
To redeem thy soul today.

At thy bosom's door he's standing,
In the night and morning dew:
O what love, what love still waiting!
Jesus *calls*, he *calls* for you.

**For More than the Manger** (cont'd from page 1)

He sent his only son to earth as a little baby. He cared for and protected this special little one, so that he could grow up and finish the work that was laid out for him. Jesus experienced the whole range of human emotions and experiences, but there was something different about him. He didn't sin. This was very important. If Jesus had sinned, God's plan would have been ruined. He wouldn't have been able to be both just and merciful. Even though Jesus loved life and wanted to continue to live and help people, he was more willing that his Father's will be accomplished. He came and lived to show us that God loved us, and that he wasn't a God to be afraid of. He came and died so that we could be freed from that which separated us from God. He came and rose again so that we could have a personal relationship with God. He came to restore the relationship that was lost when Adam and Eve sinned in the garden of Eden. Jesus came for more than the manger. He came so that we could be freed from sin and bondage, and walk in newness of life with him. He came to be the perfect sacrifice so that we could have a personal relationship with God.

This Christmas, stop and think about all that Jesus came to do. If you don't have that personal relationship with Christ, he is standing ready to receive you. He wants to wash you clean and make you whole. He came for more than the manger. He came for you. Accept his gift of life today.

**God's Emergency Numbers**

- When in sorrow - Call John 14
- When people let you down - Call Psalm 27
- If you want to be effective - Call John 15
- When you have sinned - Call Psalm 51
- When you worry - Call Matthew 6:19-34
- When you are in danger - Call Psalm 91
- When God seems far away - Call Psalm 139
- When your faith needs strength - Call Hebrews 11
- When you are lonely - Call Psalm 23
- When you grow bitter and critical - Call 1 Corinthians 13
- The secret to happiness - Call Colossians 3:12-17
- When you want peace and rest - Call Matthew 11:25-30
- When you travel - Call Psalm 121
- When your faith needs help - Call Psalms 66
- When you want courage - Call Joshua 1
- For harmony at church - Call Romans 12
- If you are depressed - Call Psalm 27
- If you are out of money - Call Psalm 37
- If you feel angry - Call 1 Corinthians 13
- If you need encouragement to read Scriptures - Call Psalm 19
- For dealing with fear - Call Psalm 34
- For security - Call Psalm 121
- For motivation - Call Mark 8:35
- For wisdom - Call James 1:5

Emergency numbers may be dialed direct.



A Little Man Climbs a Tree to See Jesus

Luke 19:1-28—From the book *Picture Story Life of Christ* by Elsie Egermeier

There was living in Jericho at the time a rich man named Zacchaeus, and he was chief among the publicans. He had never seen Jesus, and when the news came that Jesus was passing through Jericho on his way to attend the Passover Feast in Jerusalem, Zacchaeus determined that he would try to see this wonderful man. So down to the highway Zacchaeus went, hurrying along with the gathering crowd, for Jesus was to pass that way.

But Zacchaeus did not stop when the crowd stood still. He hurried a little farther on, and there he climbed into a sycamore tree that grew by the roadside. From this place he knew he could surely see Jesus when he passed by. If he had remained in the crowd he could not have seen the wonderful man from Galilee, for Zacchaeus was not so tall as the other people about him.



Soon the travelers bound for Jerusalem came down the road, and the people of Jericho, who had gathered to watch them pass, looked eagerly to catch a glimpse of Jesus. On the travelers went till they came to the sycamore tree. Here Jesus and his disciples stood still. Then Jesus looked up into the tree and saw Zacchaeus clinging to its branches and looking down upon him.

“Zacchaeus,” said Jesus, “come down at once, for today I must stop at your house.”

How surprised Zacchaeus was to hear these words! He had hoped to catch at least a glimpse of Jesus. Now he could take this wonderful man into his home and talk face to face with him.

With a joyful heart Zacchaeus led the way to his home, to entertain Jesus and his disciples there. And as they went, others followed, some finding fault because Jesus was going to stop in the home of a publican, whom they called a sinful man. The Pharisees would not enter such a house, for they despised people they called sinners and would not be friendly with them.

Although Zacchaeus was a publican, his heart had been changed by the kind words of Jesus. So he stood up before Jesus and said, “Behold, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor, and if I have in my business dealings taken more from any man than I should have taken, I give him back four times as much as I took from him.”

Jesus was pleased with Zacchaeus; for he knew this publican really had been changed in his heart. And he said, “Today salvation is come to your house, for the Son of Man is come to seek and to save those who are lost.” He had known about this publican who longed to see him, and he had sought for Zacchaeus. Now he would grant him forgiveness, because Zacchaeus had received him gladly and had confessed his willingness to make his wrongs right.

Others stood by listening, and Jesus took this time to give them another parable, or story sermon. He knew the people were expecting the kingdom of heaven to be set up soon like an earthly kingdom, so he told them this story about what the kingdom of heaven is like.

“A certain nobleman went away to a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to be made the ruler of it. Before leaving home he gave a sum of money, called a pound, to each of his ten servants, and commanded them to use the money till his return.

“After some time the nobleman came back again, having re-

ceived the crown and the kingdom in that faraway country. Then he called his ten servants and asked them how they had used the money he had given to them before he went away.

“The first servant came to him bringing ten pieces of money, and saying, ‘I traded with the pound you gave me, and I have gained these ten pounds.’

“The nobleman was pleased with that servant and said to him, ‘Because you have done this, I will give you the rule of ten cities in my kingdom.’

“Next came a servant who had gained five pounds by using the money the nobleman had given him. And the nobleman was pleased with him also, and said, ‘To you I will give the rule of five cities in the kingdom which I have received.’

“Then came the third servant, bringing only one pound, the same one that the nobleman had given him before he went away. ‘Here is your pound,’ the servant said, ‘I have kept it wrapped in this napkin all the while you were away for fear I might lose it. I know you are a harsh master, taking up what you do not lay down and reaping what you do not sow.’

“With this servant the nobleman was much displeased. He answered, ‘If you know I am a harsh master, why did you not put my money into a bank that I might have it and its gain at my return?’ He commanded those who stood by to take the one pound away from the unfaithful servant and give it to the one having ten pounds.

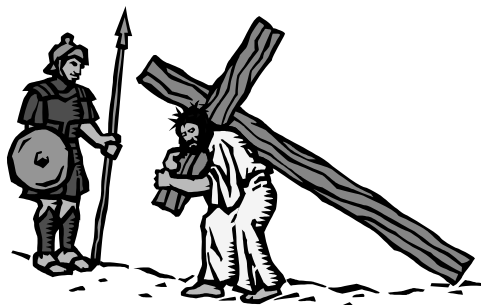
“The servants were surprised, and they said, ‘Lord, he has ten pounds, why give him more?’

“The nobleman answered, ‘To every one who uses what he has, more shall be given; but those who refuse to use what is given to them shall have their own taken away.’”

Questions and Answers

1. Why did Zacchaeus climb into a tree when he heard that Jesus was passing?
2. What did Jesus say when he saw Zacchaeus?
3. How may we know that Zacchaeus was pleased to have Jesus visit his home?
4. What great blessing did Jesus bring to that home?

(See answers below)



1. He was not very tall and wanted to be sure to see Jesus.
2. “Come down; I must stop at your house today.”
3. He received him gladly and promised to make his wrongs right.
4. Salvation.

Answers

It is Truly Wonderful

Barney E. Warren , 1903

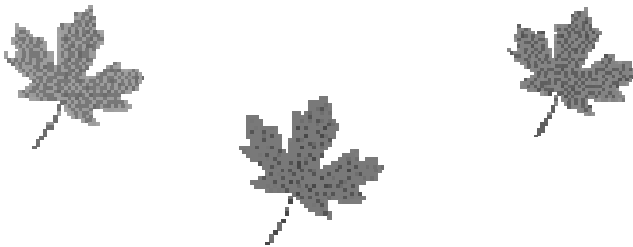
Verses:

He pardoned my transgressions, He sanctified my soul;
He honors my confessions, Since by his blood I'm whole.

He brings me thro' affliction, He leaves me not alone;
He's with me in temptation, He keeps me for his own.

He prospers and protects me, His blessings ever flow;
He gives me grace and glory, He makes me white as snow.

He keeps me firm and faithful, His love I do enjoy;
For this I shall be grateful And live in his employ



Chorus:

It is truly wonderful what the Lord has done, It is truly wonderful,
It is truly wonderful; It is truly wonderful what the Lord has done. Glory to his name!

The young people at the congregation here in Moore were asked the question, "What has God done for you recently in your life?" Here are some of the answers that they gave, telling what God has done for them, and what they are thankful for:

Sis. Stephanie: I am thankful for all God has done for me! He has answered my every prayer and has never failed me yet. I am also thankful for having good saved parents, that is all truly a blessing.

Bro. Jonathan: I'm so thankful that God has saved me from that awful pit of sin.

Sis. Lindy: I am so thankful for friends and family.

Sis. Misti: I'm thankful for how we can have a personal relationship with God, that he saves us from our sins and that we don't have to keep on doing them. I am thankful for the help and grace he gives each day to walk pure and holy. I'm thankful that he cares about the little things in our lives, like helping on tests, finding lost items, etc. God's my best friend, and I appreciate all he does for me.

Sis. Joanna: God has helped me in many wonderful ways!

Sis. Linnie: I had a really bad headache not to long ago and I asked God to help me. He helped me go thru my day and I was able to feel lots better.

Sis. Teresa: I am as well thankful for all that God has blessed me with. But most of all for salvation and how we can go to him when we need him.

Sis. Jennifer: I am thankful for how God helps me with tests in school. That is one useful thing.

Sis. Eva: The words I would use to describe all God has done in my life would have to be from the song above. It is Truly wonderful What the Lord Has Done! That is my testimony , not very many words can express the way I feel about all the has done to save my soul and as wells as other's! He is a Mighty God that has done so much for this world and is willing to forgive us from all our sins.

Bro. Rusty: I'm so thankful for saving me and helping me lots in school.

The Church of God Pastor: David Chancellor
701 S. Eastern Ave. Email: dchancellor@juno.com
PO Box 6187 Website: <http://www.geocities.com/moorecog>
Moore, OK 73153 Phone: (405) 794-2765

Spanish interpretation is available in the services.

Service Times:

Wednesday Prayer Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Young People's Service (Sunday)	4:45 p.m.
Children's Service (Sunday)	5:00 p.m.
Sunday Evening Service	6:00 p.m.

We have literature available for those who would like to study the Word of God in the confines of their home. Let us know if you are interested by contacting us at the above telephone number, address, or website.